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A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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THIS JOURNAL is regularly supplied by subscription to the whole of the Members of SIXTEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES in the British Empire. The associate Journal, *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*, published at Melbourne and Sydney, is also supplied to all Australasian subscribers.

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#### EXPORT TRADE.

NEXT week's number of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* will be the Merchant-shippers' Issue, and will be specially circulated to all firms in the United Kingdom who act as buyers of druggists' goods for merchants abroad. Those who have such goods to sell, particularly of a special nature, should not fail to advertise them in the number, so that the shippers may know exactly where to write to for the goods. The publisher asks us to state that he closes for press on

TUESDAY, MARCH 6.

#### Summary.

A NOTTINGHAM CHEMIST (Mr. Lumby) drank prussic acid last Friday (p. 364).

VINEGARS AND DILUTE ACIDS are treated in the Corner for Students this week (p. 377).

THE MARKETS are quieter this week, and the drug-sales on Thursday were small (p. 394).

CALIFORNIAN APIARISTS have formed a combination to keep up the price of honey (p. 394).

MR. LORD GIFFORD, of Blackburn, is to be nominated for the Pharmaceutical Council (p. 393).

MISS ORMEROD, the entomologist, is to be made an LL.D. of the Edinburgh University (p. 370).

A METHOD for exactly determining the citral-content of lemon oil is described by Mr. Parry on p. 376.

A NEW FRENCH TARIFF for colonial produce has just come into force. We give particulars about it on p. 394.

A CAMBERWELL "CHEMIST" has been fined 20*l.* and costs for selling camphorated oil made with mineral oil (p. 385).

MR. ABRAHAM FOSTER, President of the Dewsbury Chemists' Association, died last week. We give his portrait on p. 370.

FOR SELLING 5 gal. of methylated spirit at one time Messrs. Boots (Limited) have been fined under the Spirits Act (p. 386).

PARTICULARS are given on p. 378 of the examinations which are likely to take the place of the pharmaceutical Preliminary (p. 378).

USEFUL DISPENSING NOTES, communicated by Mr. Frederick Davis to the P. and P.L. Dispensers' Association, are printed on p. 372.

VOLUNTEER COMPOUNDERS send us notes on their experience on board ship and in South Africa. They seem to like the work (p. 368).

THE CRUMPSALL WORKHOUSE is now to have proper arrangements for keeping poisons, because of the recent dispensing-accident (p. 364).

THE P.A.T.A. has appointed a deputation to wait upon Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. regarding the retail prices of their goods (p. 393).

MR. GEORGE WARD, of Leeds, in a paper to the Bradford Chemists' Association, pointed out the advances made by the B.P. in physical tests for medicines (p. 372).

THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL have tried to get Dr. Alabone fined for using his medical titles, but they have failed, and Dr. Alabone got 10*l.* costs (p. 386).

CHARABOT has determined interesting facts regarding the development of oil in the lavender-plant, and its composition at three periods of the season (p. 378).

THE names of those who have subscribed for the entertainment of the members of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in London, and of the members of the general committee, are given on p. 384.

ADULTERATION is alleged to have broken out at the Cape again. Gregory's powder made with mag. carb. and precipitated sulphur with lime in it are the articles, but the B.P. 1898 is not yet legal in the Cape (p. 339).

THE CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION accuses the London County Council of cutting prices for stamping glass measures, and has called on the President of the Board of Trade about it. He gave them no comfort (p. 364).

THE COMPANIES BILL has been blocked by Mr. T. P. O'Connor (p. 374). The second reading is not likely to take place for six weeks. Drug companies have circularised members of Parliament about it (p. 375). Many members are to seek amendment of Clause 2, but some object to our way of amending, and we reply to them on p. 380.



## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Stamping Weights and Measures.

The President of the Board of Trade on Monday, February 26, received a deputation from the Corporation of the City of London regarding the stamping of weights and measures. The Corporation complain chiefly of cutting. Mr. Crawford, City Solicitor, explained that up to the 1889 Act the City enjoyed the exceptional privilege of having the right to insist that all weights and measures used in the City should bear the City stamp. Complaint was made of the way in which competition has reduced the fees for stamping glass measures. Under the Act of 1878 there was a schedule of charges, and it was expressly enacted that those should be the charges, "and no others, and no discount shall be allowed." Certain authorities, particularly in Northumberland, first of all allowed discounts where the stamping took place upon the manufacturer's own premises. That hurt the trade of London, and the London County Council, with a view of keeping the trade to London, reduced the charge from 1s. to 6d. The City addressed the Board of Trade on the subject, with the result that the Board intimated to the County Council that it was illegal to charge one-half of the statutory fee. The L.C.C. reverted to the old charge, but shortly after determined to make no charge for stamping, but to charge 4½d. per dozen on glass measures for unpacking and repacking. The Corporation considered this an evasion of the Act, but the County Council considered its action absolutely necessary to keep the trade to London and to enable them to compete with other authorities. Mr. Crawford now complained that under the system foreigners were able to import glass measures and get them stamped by the County Council merely at the cost of the packing-charge, whereas, if they had to pay the statutory fee, undoubtedly the British manufacturer would be able to hold his own. The number of glass measures brought to the City to be stamped has so dwindled down as to make the loss a substantial grievance to the Corporation. Mr. Crawford also complained of want of power to inspect post-office scales, and averred that the weights used by the Parcels Post in the City were improper. Further weak points required the attention of Parliament, such as a statutory scale for stamping metric measures. Mr. Ritchie, in reply, said that the questions of the inspection of post-office scales, of the stamping of metric measures, and of converting the model regulations into compulsory ones were questions upon which he could not at the moment express any opinion, but upon which he invited the Corporation to address him further in writing. With regard to the stamping of glass measures, there was no doubt that it was a very unsatisfactory and a very inconvenient thing that within the area of London there should be two different scales of fees. There was certainly something more to be said for the County Council's present position than if they had charged a reduced fee. If some general Bill on weights and measures were required in the public interest it might be comparatively easy to put this question of the stamping of glass measures into such a Bill; but he was not aware that there was any such public demand, and, therefore, he could not undertake any legislation on the subject. He would, however, address the London County Council on the matter.

### Analysts' Affairs.

Dr. Lewis Gordon Paul has been appointed public analyst for Huddersfield, in succession to the late Mr. Geo. Jarmain, chemist and druggist.

Mr. M. A. Adams, Kent County Analyst, reports that during the past quarter he has analysed seventy-nine samples of drugs, nine of which were found to be adulterated—viz., four of olive oil, one of tincture of iodine, two of liniment of camphor, and two of spirit of nitrous ether. The four samples of olive oil consisted entirely of cotton-seed oil, one sample of liniment of camphor was 20 per cent. deficient in camphor, and the two samples of nitrous ether were deficient

in active principle to the extent of 42 and 36 per cent. respectively.

### Spectacle-makers' Company.

The examinations for the present year, under the scheme for the certification of opticians, are fixed for May and November. Applications for admission to the May examination must be made to the Clerk, Colonel T. Davies Sewell, the Guildhall, E.C., on or before April 30.

### Increased.

The West Ashford (Kent) Guardians have received from the district medical officer (Mr. W. H. Coke) an application for increase of salary. Mr. Coke stated that his salary was 105*l.* per year. For this in 1897 he made 997 visits and dispensed 2,044 bottles of medicines, in 1898 paid 971 visits and dispensed 2,185 bottles of medicine, and last year paid 1,207 visits and dispensed 2,339 bottles of medicine. Exclusive of visits he had, during the past three years, supplied and dispensed 6,568 bottles of medicine, the average remuneration per bottle being 11½*d.* The Board granted an increase of 15*l.* per year.

### The Guardians Disapproved.

The Local Government Board having intimated to the West Ashford (Kent) Guardians that it is advisable that the drugs used in the workhouse infirmary should be supplied through a chemist, instead of by the medical officer, as at present, the Chairman, at a meeting of the Guardians on February 21, expressed strong disapproval of the course proposed by the superior Board. All drugs, he contended, should be provided by the doctor from his surgery, as they would then insure purity and freshness (*sic*!). He entirely opposed the idea of storing drugs at the workhouse, and the Board decided to make no alteration in their present arrangements.

### Disinfectant-contracts.

The Islington Vestry had thirteen tenders before them at their meeting on February 23, for the supply of disinfectants for the year, and after discussing the details of these in committee, adopted a recommendation that the tender be divided between the Tuson Disinfectant Company and the Sanitas Company (Limited).

### Would not Occur Again.

At a meeting of the Manchester Board of Guardians on February 21, the Visiting Committee presented a report upon the recent cases of accidental poisoning at the Crumpsall Workhouse (*C. & D.*, December 23, page 1010), which resulted in the deaths of two inmates. The committee were satisfied that the arrangements for dispensing medicines would, with the exercise of reasonable care, prevent the recurrence of such mistakes. They had, however, requested a sub-committee to inquire into the matter, with a view to the adoption of any changes in the arrangements which might be desirable or necessary. The sub-committee had made a number of suggestions which they submitted to the Board, and expressed the opinion that their adoption would materially reduce the risk of any mistake in the future. Mr. Jenner Fust, Poor-law Inspector, who was present, said he had inquired into the system of dispensing in force at the workhouse, and was satisfied that very great care had always been taken to prevent any accidents. The recent occurrence seemed absolutely inexplicable, and he thought that the additional precautions which were about to be taken would prevent any other similar accident.

### A Chemist's Son Injured.

On February 23 the son of Mr. F. R. Rump, chemist and druggist, Midhurst, was badly injured by the accidental explosion of a quantity of gunpowder.

### A Chemist's Death.

An inquest was held at Nottingham on February 23, on the body of Mr. F. Lumby, chemist and druggist, Arkwright Street, who died from prussic-acid poisoning. The widow stated that deceased had been very ill for some time, and the branch post-office business which he carried on at his shop had worried him a good deal, there having been some alteration in the telegraphic arrangements. One of the assistants had been away for a fortnight, and the pressure of business had

been enormous, added to which his daughter had been ill. Deceased had no sleep on the night previous to his death, and in the morning he said his head and chest were very bad. John George Savage, who had been assistant to Mr. Lumby for twelve years, deposed to finding deceased unconscious on his bed. He went for Dr. Ward, and Drs. Ransom and Hunter were subsequently called in, but deceased was too far gone for any relief to be afforded.

#### The Rising of the Waters.

Some of the chemists of Dartford suffered severely last week through the floods. Considerable loss was sustained by Mr. J. Cann, chemist and druggist, Lowfield Street, through the inundation of his premises, and Messrs. Horrell & Goff, chemists and druggists, High Street, had their cellars flooded and much of their stock stored there damaged. For some time Phoenix Mills, the works of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., were cut off by the floods.

#### Explosion and Fire.

An explosion, followed by a fire, occurred on February 17 on the premises of Mr. J. Wharton, chemist and druggist, at 73 Freeman Street, Grimsby. Mr. Wharton, with two other persons who were in the shop, immediately set to work to extinguish the flames, but before this was accomplished Mr. Wharton's head and face were scorched and considerable damage was done to the premises. The cause of the explosion has not been ascertained.

#### Drank from the Smeller.

A chemical-manufacturer's labourer named Crowther, at Northorpe on February 22, drank half a teaspoonful of ammonia from a smelling-bottle, and died from the effects the same night.

#### A Great Shame.

At an inquest held at Ashton-under-Lyne, on February 19, on the body of an insurance agent named Blount, who committed suicide by drinking a solution of oxalic acid, it transpired that the acid was purchased at the shop of Mr. Jackson, chemist and druggist, and bore a red "poison" label. The foreman of the jury said it was a pity there was not more difficulty in purchasing poisons, and the Coroner (Mr. J. F. Price) admitted that it was a great shame, but what, he asked, could they do? They had tried to get carbolic acid scheduled, but had failed.

#### A Sad Case.

At Richmond on February 26, Master Fischer, sitting as a Master in Lunacy, and a special jury, after hearing evidence, declared that Mr. Percy Carlyle Gilchrist, of Frognall Bank, Hampstead, was not of sound mind and was not fit to control his affairs. Mr. Gilchrist is a Fellow of the Royal Society, and co-inventor of the famous "Thomas-Gilchrist" steel process, by which invention he made a large fortune. The action was taken by his wife, and the evidence was of a painful character, showing that Mr. Gilchrist's mind is completely unhinged.

#### From the Channel Isles.

*Electric Light in Guernsey.*—The "light of the future" has been introduced into Guernsey, and among the first to be supplied was the shop of Mr. Haworth, chemist, Grange (St. Peter Port).

*A Plucky Guernsey Chemist.*—Mr. W. H. Davies, of Mill Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, rendered good service to the local police on the Friday night last by assisting in the capture of two housebreakers.

*Trade-marks in Jersey.*—Registration has been granted by the Royal Court of Jersey of trade-marks belonging to M. Maurice Robin, chemist, Paris, for pharmaceutical products, also to Messrs. G. Foster Clarke & Co., Eiffel Tower Works, Maidstone.

*A Doctor's Bill.*—On February 22, the States Assembly of Jersey readopted as a permanent law the previous triennial regulations on the practice of medicine and surgery in that island. The Bill was introduced by Judge W. Duret Aubin, M.B. (promoter of the Jersey Pharmacy Act). The President of the Chamber supported the passing of the Bill in the form of a permanent law, saying that as it was really more than a Municipal Act, he suggested that the Jersey

Medical Society (Incorporated) should supply the Greffier, or Recorder, with a list of medical men who had ceased to practise in the island, so that the register might be authoritatively revised. One section of the Bill stipulated that no medical man could be appointed surgeon of the Hospital, Prison, or other public institution in Jersey, or be attached to a local Militia Regiment, unless he had first obtained permission to practise in the island. This proviso was amended to read that English practitioners appointed to such posts must first be locally registered. Article 9 reads: "It is understood the present law shall be applicable to every person, without distinction of sex, who presents the necessary certificates to the Royal Court," which led Judge Duret Aubin to say a word or two in favour of lady doctors, who, he remarked, were already to be found in Guernsey.

#### The Benevolent Fund.

This branch of the Pharmaceutical Society's (G.B.) labours is the better this week by 25 guineas voted to it by the Chemists' Ball Committee, which had a surplus of 34l. 14s. on the last dance.

#### Doctors at Dinner.

The centenary of the Leicester Medical Society was celebrated on February 27 by a dinner in the County Assembly-rooms. The company was a large one, and Dr. Frank M. Pope (President of the Society), who occupied the chair, was supported by Sir William Broadbent, Sir J. Sawyer, Sir Felix Semon, Dr. W. S. Church (President of the Royal College of Physicians), Dr. F. T. Roberts (President of the Medical Society of London), Dr. J. B. Spence (President of the Medico-psychological Association), Mr. J. Tweedy (Vice-President of the Royal College of Surgeons), and Mr. J. Bryant (President of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society). Sir William Broadbent, in proposing the toast of "The Leicester Medical Society," said the meetings of such societies, although not usually exhilarating, yet served a useful purpose by tending to the diffusion of knowledge. At these meetings the young man fresh from lectures and the hospital-laboratory met with the man of ripe experience, and a mutual benefit resulted. But a more important use medical societies had was in bringing men together and mitigating that jealousy and suspicion which to a greater or lesser degree obtained in all communities and professions. It was just one hundred years ago that the Society was started, and it was just a century ago that the Royal College of Surgeons was called into existence. Referring to vaccination, which was exercising the minds of medical men a hundred years ago, he said that he was aware that in Leicester he was treading on dangerous ground. (Laughter.) He had that night for the first time in his life met an anti-vaccinator. He had refrained from discussing the question with him, however, as he was well aware that one might just as well try to discuss a beautiful sunset with a colour-blind man as vaccination with an anti-vaccinationist. But his opinion was that in the future they would vaccinate against everything. The Chairman, in reply, said the primary object of the Society was the distribution of books connected with their profession. At the outset there were eight members—now there were eighty. Dr. Bond proposed "The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons and the learned Medical Societies," and Dr. Church, Mr. J. Tweedy, Dr. F. T. Roberts, and Mr. J. Bryant responded.

BERNE (Switzerland) is now in a position, through a legacy, to give scholarships to Swiss women who desire to study medicine, pharmacy, or chemistry, and who have not the means to pay for their instruction. A widow of the name of Lenz has left the whole of her fortune, which consists of the property Oranienburg, near Berne, for this purpose.

A ROMAN HOSPITAL.—Reading the ancient classics we find no mention of a hospital in our sense of the word. Recently, however, in some Roman ruins at Baden, near Zurich, fourteen chambers, containing several instruments and utensils known to have been in use with Roman doctors, were found, such as forceps, spatulas, measures, ointment-pots, &c. They are supposed to have belonged to a military hospital of the Seventh and Eighth Legions, stationed in that part.



## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Drug-contract.

Messrs. Hunt & Co., wholesale chemists, Dublin, have secured the contract for the supply of drugs and medicines to the Maryborough Union at a reduction of 35 per cent. off the scheduled prices.

### McBride's Fall.

McBride, the erstwhile chemist's assistant who is fighting with the Boers, was defeated at the South Mayo parliamentary election. The result of the election, declared on Wednesday, was: O'Donnell, 2,401; McBride, 427.

### Pharmaceutical Licence Examination.

The *Dublin Gazette* contains the proclamation of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland approving of the alteration in the date of the Pharmaceutical Licence examination to April 10 and following days. The alteration is made on account of Good Friday.

### Heeded not the L.G.B.

The Local Government Board have notified the Castlederg Poor-law Guardians that recoupment in respect of drugs and medicines will not be allowed until a certificate has been obtained from a recognised analyst that the articles have been examined. Intimation of this, the L.G.B. adds, was given the Guardians on two previous occasions, so that the latter have nobody to blame but themselves for losing the rebate.

### Medicine-cases Ordered.

The Local Government Board have written to the Poor-law Guardians at Westport stating that they will raise no objection to the Guardians providing the dispensary medical officers of the Union with miniature medicine-chests. The Clerk said he thought the medicine-chests could be procured from the drug-contractors, whose representative stated that such chests were kept in stock. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the contractors asking the probable cost of the articles required. Dr. Bermingham said it was best to get miniature medicine-chests suitable for concentrated drugs in tabloid form. All medicines could now be obtained in that form, and would be much better for carrying about than bottles. The Chairman agreed, and an order was made accordingly.

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Business Changes.

Mr. J. W. Miller, chemist and druggist, Byars Road, Glasgow, is opening an additional branch in Hyndland Road, Partick.

Mr. R. H. Gordon, chemist and druggist, Partick, is about to open a new branch at 10 Dunchattan Street, Dennistoun. The premises are to be handsomely fitted.

### Calcium-carbide Explosion.

A workman at the Finnieston Engineering-works, Glasgow, on February 21 approached one of the buildings, in which a quantity of carbide of calcium was stored, with a naked light. An explosion resulted, the workman was injured, and the manager of the works was fined 5*l.* for allowing naked lights to be used near inflammable material.

### Settled.

An action by Mr. John Burn, merchant, Leith, against Mr. W. Wallace Auld, Edinburgh, for 206*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* outlays in

connection with the carrying through of the sale of the Scottish Fluid Beef Company in 1896, has been settled. Defender tendered 110*l.* as payment in full, which has been accepted by the pursuer, who is to pay expenses.

### Aërated Waters should be Taxed.

At the annual dinner of the Edinburgh and District Aërated Water Manufacturers' Defence Association held on February 22 in the Royal Hotel, Edinburgh, the President (Mr. W. Inglis) recalled the time when mineral waters were sold as patent medicines. He expressed the hope that history would repeat itself, and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would impose a tax on mineral waters. Such a proceeding, he said, would solve a good many difficulties about prices, and would yield the Government a great deal of money without much trouble.

### Festive Druggists.

On February 26 the annual festival of the employés and friends of Mr. James Taylor, wholesale druggist, 132 Tron-gate, Glasgow, took place in White & Smith's Restaurant, Glasford Street. Mr. John Taylor presided over a company of about one hundred gentlemen, including many well-known representatives of the trade. After supper, the Chairman toasted "The Queen," and Mr. John Williamson, J.P., Loanhead, proposed "Success to the Firm." Mr. Taylor, in reply, gave some interesting details of the growth of the firm. A pleasant evening was spent, and Mr. John Whitton jun., gave a fine rendering of "The Absent-minded Beggar," after which a sum of 2*l.* 2*s.* was collected on behalf of the War Fund.

### The Kinninmont Prize.

The examination (which is a written one, the subjects being botany and magnetism and electricity) for this annual prize will be held in Glasgow in May or June. Assistants in Glasgow and the counties of Argyle, Ayr, Bute, Dumbarton, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Lanark, Renfrew, and Wigtown who have qualified two years previous to the examination will be eligible to compete. Assistants who have served their apprenticeship in these districts, but have removed outside the radius within twelve months of the examination, will also be eligible. Intending competitors should send in their names to the Secretary, Mr. Wm. L. Currie 223 Byres Road, Dowanhill, Glasgow.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A GREAT FIRE broke out last Sunday morning in the general warehouses of Depinay & Cie., St. Ouen, Paris. Damage to the extent of 2,000,000*f.* (80,000*l.*) was done and nearly one hundred and thirty persons were more or less injured, though no death is reported. The explosion of a carboy of alcohol started the conflagration, and soon a stock of 8,000 casks of alcohol were burning. A large number of fire-engines was requisitioned, but there was nothing to be done but to try to save the adjoining buildings, for, as the casks of alcohol continued to explode, the flames leapt high into the air, sometimes nearly 200 feet. Matters became complicated by the burning alcohol spreading over an adjacent field and setting fire to a house. About mid-day the fire had greatly decreased in intensity, but towards 4 P.M. the stock of alcohol and oil in the cellars caught fire. The pharmacists of St. Ouen were fully occupied throughout Sunday in giving first aid to victims of the fire.

PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY.—At the last meeting of this Society M. Planchon, in taking the chair, referred to the zeal with which the retiring committee had conducted the affairs of the Society. He mentioned the fact that the International Pharmaceutical Congress would be an important feature during the present year, and he had every confidence that it would result in the Society strengthening the bonds of friendship which unite it to foreign societies of pharmacy. The resignation was announced of M. Duquesnel, who, for reasons of health, is obliged to reside in Tunis part of the year; he had been a member nearly thirty years.

M. Lépinos offered himself as a candidate for membership. Reference was made to a loss the Society has sustained by the death of Dr. Carl Friedrich Rammelsberg, of Berlin, who was a corresponding member. M. Bourquelot read, in the name of M. Harlay, a paper on "Papain," and M. Crinon one by M. Eury, pharmacist, La Rochelle, on "Causes of Error in the Estimation of Glucose in Urine by Fehling's Solution."

**AN ANTI-PATENT MOVE.**—The Federation of the Societies of Pharmacists of the South-East of France, a wide-awake and militant body which has especially made itself prominent in the anti-patent medicine movement, has decided to undertake to supply French pharmacists with tickets to affix to patent medicines. These tickets say that "the pharmacist declines all responsibility or guarantee for specialities of which the formula is unknown, and of which he ignores the preparation." The tickets, in white or red, are supplied at from 2*d.* to 5*d.* per thousand, according to quantity. Another, wording somewhat as follows, was also suggested: "Mr. N. O. Patents, pharmacist, Pillville, declines all responsibility or guarantee for products not bearing his seal and ticket"; but this was discarded on the ground that it unnecessarily reminds the public of the pharmacist's responsibilities, and that his knowledge has certain limits.

**EPIDEMICS.**—Pharmacists here have had a fairly busy winter, and one may indicate influenza as the principal malady for which they had medicines to dispense, although that epidemic was of a comparatively mild form. Paris now seems to be threatened with small-pox, which is said to be already prevalent. I hear that some of the large houses of business are having their staff vaccinated, and it is stated that the children attending the Paris board-schools are also to be similarly treated. This is possibly to some extent considered as a precaution against an outbreak of an epidemic which might result from the Paris Exhibition and the consequent great influx of strangers. At the last meeting of the Paris Academy of Medicine measles were stated by Dr. Vallin to exist here in epidemic form. He considers the malady should be included amongst the list of contagious diseases for which notification is necessary. *A propos* of the

Le député guérisseur

PAR HERMANN-PAUL



— C'est pour l'interpellation qu'ils viennent tous ces gens ?  
— Non, c'est pour leur grippe.

influenza-epidemic I send you a cartoon which appeared in the *Figaro* the other day.

**WEDDING-BELLS.**—The marriage of M. Georges Dethan, proprietor of "Beral's" well-known pharmacy in the rue de la Paix, Paris, with Mlle. Thérèse Roulet took place on Saturday last, the religious ceremony (or "nuptial benediction" as it is termed here) being held at the fashionable church of the Madeleine. A large number of friends were present, for M. Dethan's former position as preparator to Professor Planehon, Director of the Paris School of Pharmacy, has made him well known in pharmaceutical circles. He is the son of M. Edmond Dethan, and nephew of M. Adhemar Dethan, pharmacist and Hon. President of the Pharmacists' Syndical Chamber of the Seine. M. Georges Dethan will be remembered by those who attended the Brussels International Congress, and will doubtless be an active and conspicuous member of the 1900 Pharmacy Congress at Paris, in spite of his new business ties. He only took over Beral's business last year.

## Colonial and Foreign News.

**BAHAMA SPONGES.**—The sale of sponge at the Nassau Exchange, Bahama, from December 22 to 30, amounted to \$31,579, prices ruling very high. The total amount sold at the Exchange during 1899 was \$391,180, which was less than formerly, owing to the industry being severely crippled by the August hurricane.

**A GRECIAN PHARMACOPEIA.**—Greece hitherto may be said to have had practically no Pharmacopeia. The chemists have had to rely partly on Landerer's (published in 1837) and partly on foreign Pharmacopœias. Now, however, Professor A. Damberghis, of Athens University, has published a new Pharmacopeia, which has been recognised by the Government as official.

**OLIVE OIL RISING.**—Chicago importers and dealers are anticipating a corner in olive oil this year. Retail druggists are now paying \$3 per gal. for the best brands. One of the largest importers of olives in America says the demand has been steadily increasing in recent years, and this, coupled with the destruction wrought by insects, has sent the price up. California olives have a limited market, as they are delivered overripe.

**THE CRETAN EXHIBITION.**—This exhibition, which is to be opened at Canea from April 11 to May 7, is being well kept before the public. In a further communication from the manager (Mr. A. Gobiet, Prague-Carolinental, Bohemia, Austria) we learn that amongst the products likely to have a ready sale in Crete are surgical instruments, photographic apparatus, brushes, glue, wax, perfumery and toilet-articles, soaps, drugs, dyestuffs, volatile oils, and essences. Full information as to shipping, terms for space, &c., may be obtained by addressing Mr. Gobiet as above.

**A HAMBURG UNIVERSITY.**—It is reported that steps are being taken towards the establishment of a university in Hamburg. Hamburg possesses a large number of scientific institutions which as a rule only exist in connection with a university. These comprise the Ethnological Museum, the Collection of Hamburg Antiquities, Art and Trade Museum, Observatory, the State Physical Laboratory, State Chemical Laboratory, Natural History Institute, Botanical Gardens and Institute, the Commercial Institute, and the State Library. These institutions are quite independent of one another, but are under the control of the Council of Education and are under a general obligatory rule for holding lectures, and publish a joint annual. In 1890 the question as to how these institutions could be brought into closer union was discussed, and a proposal for the organisation of a university has now been put before the citizens.

**THE CONDY TRADE-MARK.**—Two applications were heard in the Equity Court, Sydney, N.S.W., on January 16, the first (Condy & Mitchell v. Parker) to restrain the defendant from offering for sale any such fluid as being the same in composition as Condy's fluid, and the second (Condy & Mitchell v. Powell) to restrain the sale under the designation of "Condy's crystals" of any chemical not being of the plaintiffs' manufacture, or from selling to persons desirous of procuring Condy's fluid permanganate of potash, or any other substance not manufactured by the plaintiffs, as the equivalent in solution, and being the same in composition as that preparation. In the Parker case it was alleged that the defendant was supplying purchasers asking for Condy's fluid with a preparation labelled "Disinfecting Fluid or Natural Disinfectant," but being otherwise substantially a copy of the plaintiffs' label. There was also a statement on the bottle that the fluid formerly sold under the name of Condy's fluid would be sold under another name, although the same in composition. The defendant consented to a perpetual injunction. In the case of Powell, the plaintiffs alleged that "Condy's fluid" was wholly different in composition from permanganate of potash, and contained other ingredients, and that the plaintiffs did not manufacture permanganate of potash, or buy, or sell it. It was alleged that the defendant had sold permanganate of potash as Condy's crystals, and had represented that a solution thereof would give the same preparation. The defendant consented to a perpetual injunction, and a decree was made accordingly.



## War Notes.

**LUMSDEN'S HORSE.**—Amongst those who are mentioned in the additional list of subscribers to the Indian Mounted Infantry Corps we notice Messrs. F. W. Heilgers & Co., London, 500r., and Messrs. Smith, Stanistreet & Co. 250r.

**GIFTS FOR THE TROOPS.**—A number of "comforts" have been sent to the Langman hospital, which was originated some time ago for duty with the troops in S. Africa by Mr. J. L. Langman. The following firms contribute:—Liebig's Extract of Meat Company (Limited); Apollinaris and Johannis, Limited (mineral waters); Schweppe's, Limited (mineral waters); Bovril (Limited); Darton, Gibbs & Co., Birmingham (dressings); Robinson & Sons, Chesterfield (medical wool); A. & F. Pears, Limited (soaps); J. & J. Field, Limited (soaps); Plasmon Syndicate, Limited (albumen).—Messrs. Mackey, Mackey & Co. (Limited), wholesale druggists, of Grange Road, Bermondsey, have this week shipped free of charge, per s.s. *Cornwall*, ten cases of veterinary medicines, which they have presented for the use of the Imperial Yeomanry in S. Africa.

**THE ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS** have been distinguishing themselves with Buller during the past few days



SECOND-LIEUT. T. W.  
WHIFFEN.

especially, and the news comes to us at the same time that we hear of Second-Lieut. Whiffen's arrival at Plymouth. He belongs to the 1st Battalion of the Fusiliers, and, as we have previously reported, was severely wounded early in the battle of Colenso. We regret to hear that, despite the long sea-voyage, he is still in a very serious condition, having been injured in the groin, the thigh, and the right foot. On landing at Plymouth he was removed in an ambulance to the military hospital at Devonport, where he temporarily remains. His attendant, Private Kernaghan, of the same regiment, who accompanied him home, was also slightly wounded in the shoulder at Colenso.

**A NEWCASTLE SEND-OFF.**—On Tuesday evening, February 20, the past and present students of the North of England School of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Newcastle-on-Tyne, met in Simpson's Café at a social gathering, to give a send-off supper to Mr. J. T. Hogarth, one of the late students recently qualified as a chemist, who has volunteered for active service with the 1st V. B. Northumberland Fusiliers. Mr. F. R. Dudderidge, F.C.S., occupied the chair. After supper a purse of gold was presented to Mr. Hogarth on behalf of the students by Mr. G. F. Merson, F.C.S., the former principal of the school, who, in suitable terms, wished him "God speed and a safe return." The remainder of the evening was devoted to music and recitations, the following gentlemen contributing:—Songs, by Messrs. Dudderidge, J. Duncan, and McPhail, violin solos by Messrs. J. G. Duncan and Stevens, a recitation by Mr. Shapforth, and a 'cello solo by Mr. J. S. Hill. Mr. J. Duncan and Mr. J. S. Hill acted as accompanists. A very enthusiastic and enjoyable evening was appropriately ended by the singing of the National Anthem.

**VOLUNTEER COMPOUNDERS' EXPERIENCE.**—We subjoin extracts from letters written by Volunteer compounders. They are in continuance of the descriptions previously published in the *C. & D.* [see January 6, page 11; January 20, page 84; and February 24, page 320]:—

January 16.—We stopped at Madeira, where our letters were posted, but could not coal there, so had to proceed to the Canary Isles, getting our supply of fuel at Las Palmas. No troops were allowed on shore, and we had to enjoy the pretty picture of the island and town from afar. My friend, the other chemist in our company, has now fully recovered from *mal de mer*, and we get through our work swimmingly. Tommy on board seems very fond of taking physic, but he gets very little attention in the ordinary way. The hospital is situated aft, and we have thirty-

six beds, all full at present, and ninety-six in the sick-list, attending every morning. The first death took place on Sunday. The patient was a transport-rider in the Army Service Corps. He died of brain fever at 2.10 in the afternoon, and was buried at 5. The body was sewn up in sacking, heavily weighted, and placed on a grating, the whole covered by a Union Jack. The chaplain read the service for burial at sea, and at a motion from an officer's hand the body was rolled into the sea. Then the trumpeters of the company blew the "Last Post" in a very slow and mournful way, and the troops dispersed.

A great business which has kept my afternoons busy has been the inoculation for enteric fever. It is quite optional, and only about 200 of the troops have gone through the process, including nearly all the officers. It makes you very sore for a day or two, but I had no fever or headache, as some had. I had to get the preliminaries ready each day, quarts of antiseptic lotion, lint, &c., and as each patient comes in by turn I wash his groin first with soap and water, then with carbolic lotion; then the surgeon injects the serum. In the morning, when the medical officer in charge holds his consultation, the men come up when called by name, state their ailment, and the doctor dictates his treatment to me. After all are seen they wait for their physic or dressings. All dressings and bandagings come to my lot, and I got quite a compliment for my work from the Major the other day. I am already detailed for the dressing-station when we get to the front, so I expect to see some sad sights.

The worst part of the living is the inability to get a cold drink; on the other hand, there is not very much room for complaint about the food.

January 19.—We finished up our inoculation to-day. The surgeons are very much disappointed at the small number who have submitted themselves to this. The men who are working with me in the hospital are an awfully jolly lot. The two hospital orderlies are both Reservists. One of them has seen a deal of active service, and has had a variety of adventures.

We have two bands on board, one brass, the other pipes, and to-night we are to have a concert on deck. Yesterday we had a nice little operation under chloroform. The ship was pitching about a good deal, but it was very successful.

January 21.—Our daily routine on board is as follows:—The bugle sounds the *réveille* (pronounced in the service "revally") at 6 o'clock. In ten minutes another call sounds "replace hammocks," and troops have to wash. At 6.45 another call sounds "draw rations." Each table seats eighteen men at once, presided over by a corporal. Two men are detailed as orderlies, whose business it is to fetch the food from the cook-houses. After breakfast, which is terminated by a bugle-call, the washing-up begins, and everything is scrubbed down—floor, tables, eating-utensils, &c. At 9 o'clock the troops are paraded on deck in their different companies and inspected by their officers. The same performance goes on at dinner time, 12 o'clock, and tea 4.30. During the day various drills, exercises and gymnastics are gone through by those who are not told off for special duties as sentries, orderlies, &c. I have no parades or anything else to do, my time being fully occupied in the surgery. If we want a smoke, my *confère* and myself simply lock the door and go on deck, otherwise we are besieged from morning till night by importunate Tommies wanting purges and all sorts of physic.

January 23.—We expect to get into Cape Town on Thursday evening, but know nothing about our ultimate destination. To-day we have got our kit-bags from the hold, and are busy getting together just what things we are allowed to take up country: jersey, change of linen, one pair boots, three pairs socks, one pair shoes, spare suit of khaki, field service-cap, hold-all containing knife, fork, spoon, razor, brush and comb, one towel, soap, and grease for boots—that's all. The rest we leave at the base in our second bag. I hope we shall not be quarantined at Cape Town; we have two cases of measles on board. [10/29.]

Writing from De Aar, another compounder carries the narrative on from Cape Town. We also select from his letter points about the voyage not already dealt with:—

It was on January 9, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when we arrived at Tenerife. It was here that a few of the more important drugs had to be bought for use in the ship-hospital, which had become fairly full with patients in a short time. Concerning the dispensing and medicine-chest on board the less said the better, but I may mention that one medicine-tumbler and one minimum measure served their purpose in dispensing sometimes eighty prescriptions a day, as well as being used as tumblers out of which sometimes over 100 would "roll up" for a dose of mist-expectorans. There was no water laid on in the dispensary, no sink, no bottles provided (lemonade-bottles had to be used), no corks; but the deficiencies were too numerous to mention, and not altogether surprising when we learnt that the medicine-chest had been fitted up in 1862.

On January 15 I was inoculated against enteric fever. Three out of the four pillmakers volunteered to be done, but the fourth "knew a little too much about inoculation." Eighteen minims of a yellowish serum was hypodermically injected into the left



lower side of the abdomen. Two hours later the part began to swell and became very tender, and the patient was ordered off to bed. Very few of the inoculated ones slept, but profuse perspiration was the order of the night. In the morning the patients, with the exception of being very stiff and sore on the left side, had practically recovered.

After a hot but pleasant voyage we arrived at Cape Town at 1.30 A.M. on January 25. It was 10.30 P.M. before we were entrained and learnt that we were to join Lord Methuen's division. We were all provided with a splendid tea gratis by the good people of Cape Town. It was served out by several young ladies, and above the booth was written in large letters "Tommy's Welcome to the Cape." With nearly sixteen hundred souls on that train we passed the first long night eight in a compartment, and so were compelled to keep in a sitting posture asleep and awake. Saturday morning, January 27, brought us into a barren sandy country. We passed several ostriches that were quite close to the train, and arrived at De Aar junction at 1.30 P.M. The railway is guarded all the way along from Cape Town. Our field-hospital detrained here, and the others went on to Orange River.

It is now Wednesday, the last day in January, and we are still at De Aar, a very hot, sandy place, where dust-storms have raged every day except one since we came. The hospital is full, having 300 patients sick and wounded. Yesterday the 19th Bearer Company passed through *en route* to Orange River; also the 7th Bearer Company, eight chemists in all having gone up, amongst whom were Messrs. Robertson, Beverley, Nicholson, and Sayers—all Volunteer compounders. It is possible that we may strike camp and move on towards the Modder River to-morrow, February 1. It is all strange, and if friends at home could see us sitting on the sand in our tent eating a mixture of sand, bully beef, and dry biscuits, with tea in our tin canteens strong and without sugar, they would laugh at us. In the daytime the temperature reaches 104° in the shade. The nights are very cold, and we lie on the sand with all our clothes on (except boots), and cover ourselves with the one grey blanket which we carry, and then do a good freeze; but I am told that later on we are to be served with waterproof sheeting and another blanket. How we shall appreciate them when we do get them! [12/46.]

## South African News.

MR. STRACHAN, of Messrs. Strachan & Co., chemists and mineral-water manufacturers, Salisbury, Rhodesia, will be leaving shortly for a trip to Europe.

MESSRS. P. J. PETERSEN & Co., Cape Town, notify that their late assistant manager, Mr. W. F. Colman, is no longer in the employ of that firm.

THE B.P. 1898, which was gazetted to come into operation on February 1, is not yet in force. The Government considered it necessary to postpone the date till March. When March arrives it is expected that it will receive similar treatment, as there seems to be a hitch in the Act. Cape chemists are asking, Why not say the beginning of the century now?

PAYMENT BY HELIOGRAPH.—Kimberley merchants, who had grown tired of waiting for Lord Methuen's relief column, have been discharging their Cape Town accounts by heliograph. It has been no uncommon occurrence to receive such payments in Cape Town. The banks, railroads, and Government officials (colonial) have constantly used this method of communication since the siege began.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT PROSECUTION.—On January 30, William Slegs, manager for the proprietor of a Cape Town drug-store, carried on under the style of Hazell & Sons, was charged under the Food, Drugs, and Seeds Act with selling milk of sulphur containing 9 per cent. of sulphate of lime; also 4 oz. Gregory's powder which, on analysis, was found to contain 40 per cent. of carbonate of magnesia. Mr. Van Zyl, of Messrs. Van Zyl & Buissine, appeared for the defendant, and also watched the case in the interests of the Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony. In regard to the Gregory's powder, Inspector Clark handed in the Government analysts' analysis, which gave the following percentages:—Carbonate of magnesia, 41.23; magnesia, 9.17; mixture of rhubarb and ginger, 49.40—total ash, 32.94 per cent. The defendant, in conducting his defence, said he had managed the business since February, 1899. He had

made no Gregory's powder, nor purchased any. The powder in question was in stock, bottled and corked. He did not sell to the constable in a bottle. After the purchase he made an examination of the powder in stock, and found it contained carbonate of magnesia—it should contain rhubarb, ginger, and light magnesia. The difference would not alter the medicinal value of the preparation. Dr. B. Hewatt gave evidence as a medical practitioner to the effect that carbonate of magnesia and light magnesia, from a therapeutic point of view, had exactly the same effect. The defendant said there was only a difference in price of 3d. per lb. Asked which was the heavier of the two, he replied, "The heaviest." (Laughter.) Judgment was reserved. A further hearing took place on February 6, when the milk-of-sulphur case was gone into, and was proceeding when the mail left.

## American Notes.

LANGTRY AND THE "MAINE."—Mrs. Langtry, who is playing to crowded houses in New York and reciting nightly "The Absent-minded Beggar," has given a grand concert in aid of the hospital-ship *Maine* fund. The affair was a great success.

PRESCRIBING BY ADVERTISEMENT is only in its infancy in England compared to America, where this questionable form of business has assumed gigantic proportions. Some New York drug-stores make a speciality of handling proprietary medicines, and their shelves are crowded with thousands of nostrums with bewildering names and fancy titles. Anything with a name goes, providing it is a catchy name and is well advertised. The public seem to become hypnotised by advertisements, and buy and take nostrums like a lot of sheep. We are living in an age which future generations will look back upon as the time when a man of capital had only to say to the public by advertisement, "Take this," and if he said it often enough it would be taken. It is by constant repetition that advertising acquires its hypnotic effect.

IN NEW YORK prescribing by druggists is strictly forbidden by law, and there are few pharmacists who would care to run the risk of making up even a simple remedy straight from the bottles on his own account. They know very well that a \$25-fine awaits them if they should be caught in the dreadful act, and yet the law allows a bootmaker or anyone else to prescribe and sell medicines by advertisement, even nostrums containing scheduled poisons, for the selling of which without registering the druggist would be fined. Most American nerve-tonics contain strychnine, and the majority of the advertised catarrh-cures contain cocaine. The law kindly allows the druggist to sell these without any bother, but let him supply a few strychnine tablets without labelling them "Poison," and he will quickly discover the difference between a druggist and a patent-medicine proprietor.

THE VOGELER COMPANY'S TROUBLES.—Mr. and Mrs. Devries, who conducted the business of the Charles A. Vogeler Company, manufacturers of St. Jacobs' oil and other proprietary articles, were adjudged bankrupts on February 5 at Baltimore. This action was the result of a petition filed by two banks and a firm of paper-dealers, who hold claims against the company. The petition averred as an act of bankruptcy the execution by Mr. and Mrs. Devries of an assignment for the benefit of creditors on December 18, 1899 (*C. & D.*, January 6, page 6). It was set up in defence that Mrs. Devries as a married woman could not be co-partner, and that there was, consequently, no legal partnership between her and her husband, and for whose obligations they could be adjudged bankrupts. It was further contended that the deed of trust was not a general assignment constituting an act of bankruptcy, inasmuch as it had been executed in fulfilment of an ante-nuptial agreement between Mr. Devries and his present wife, then Mrs. Minnie A. Vogeler, by which she agreed to devote her separate property to the benefit of her creditors. Judge Morris decided against this contention, but an appeal was taken from his ruling.

## Marriage.

**BATES—KIRBY.**—On February 26, at the Parish Church, Bicester, by the Rev. G. P. Crawford, vicar, John Bates, chemist and druggist, to Florence Ellen, daughter of the late Geo. Kirby, solicitor.

## Deaths.

**ATKINSON.**—On February 2, Mr. Joseph Atkinson, chemist and druggist, Tynemouth. Aged 56.

**FOSTER.**—At Heckmondwike, on February 24, Mr. Abraham Foster, chemist and druggist, Dewsbury, and President of the Dewsbury and District Chemists' and Druggists' Association. Aged 61. The late Mr. Foster had been suffering for many weeks from a bronchial affection, but was able to attend to his business up to the Wednesday previous to his decease. On that day his ailment took a serious turn, and pneumonia supervened with fatal results. Mr. Foster served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. T. H. Gloyne, of Dewsbury, with whom he remained for many years as assistant. Ultimately he took over the old-established concern of the late Mr. T. M. Brooke, of Dewsbury—a wholesale and retail business which he successfully conducted until his death. The deceased was mainly instrumental in the formation of the Dewsbury and District Chemists' and Druggists' Association, and was its first President. He was also at different times officially connected with many of the public institutions in the town and neighbourhood, and was a director of the Mirfield Gas Company and chairman of directors of the Dewsbury and District Glass Plate Assurance Company (Limited). He was a Freemason, and held an official position in the "Amphibious" Lodge. For many years he filled the presidential chair of the Dewsbury Tradesmen's Association, and at one time was a member of the Dewsbury and District Infirmary Board. Being of an exceedingly buoyant temperament and affable disposition, he was well known and popular. Several times he was urged to allow himself to be nominated for Dewsbury Town Council, but declined. He was a bachelor, and leaves two sisters. The interment, which took place on February 26, was attended by many members of the Dewsbury Chemists' and Druggists' Association and the Dewsbury Tradesmen's Association.

**JOHNSTONE.**—On February 6, Mr. James Johnstone, chemist and druggist, Carlisle. Aged 30.

**LUMBY.**—At Nottingham, on February 21, Mr. Fred Lumby, chemist and druggist. Aged 46.

**MACLEOD.**—The death occurred on January 29, at Hong Kong, of Mr. H. A. MacLeod, a prominent resident of Manila. Aged 43. Deceased had been twenty years in Manila, engaged in business with Messrs. MacLeod & Co., wholesale druggists and general merchants, Manila. During that time he had gained a position of high respect for his conduct of business concerns and the interest he maintained in the social life of Manila. Mr. MacLeod was the son of a clergyman and was born in Glasgow, but his early years were spent in Canada. His health had been previously shattered by business and other worries consequent on the unsettled state of affairs in the Philippines. He leaves a widow and five children.

**OGLE.**—On February 3, Mr. William Henry Ogle, chemist and druggist, Cheltenham. Aged 80.

**REDMAN.**—On February 9, Mr. Henry Redman, chemist and druggist, Tuxford, Notts. Aged 77.

**RICH.**—At 152 Mile End Road, Mr. George Benjamin Orridge Rich, chemist and druggist. Aged 56. The late Mr. Rich was well known and respected in Mile End, and was for eight years churchwarden at St. Thomas's, Arbour Square.

**RUST.**—On February 16, Mr. James Rust, chemist and druggist, Thaxted. Aged 88.

**WINTERBORN.**—On February 21, Mrs. M. A. Winterborn, widow of Mr. James Winterborn, chemist and druggist, High Street, Redbourn. Aged 84.

**WOOD.**—At "The Gables," Brentford, on February 24, Mr. Henry Wood, pharmaceutical chemist.

## Personalities.

**MR. D. O. OWEN**, Walthamstow, has been appointed dispenser for the Newport-on-Usk Union Workhouse.

**MR. T. H. W. IDRIS** was president on the second evening of the London Eisteddfod, and "gave a capital presidential address," says the *Times*.

**MR. I. T. GILLING**, for many years representative of Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co., of Leeds, in the north of England, has been placed on the Commission of the Peace for the City of Ripon.

**MR. WILLIAM COOK**, chemist and druggist, who served his apprenticeship with Mr. Weston of Runcorn, has left this week for Durban to take a position with Messrs. Turner & Co., chemists, Pietermaritzburg, Natal.

**MR. WALTER ASTEN**, who has disposed of his business at Erdington to Mr. Burnage, has taken the double qualification for registration as a medical practitioner, and will in future devote himself to medical practice exclusively.

**MR. J. L. WORK**, pharmacist, of Sydney, N.S.W., has, after a visit to his old home in Orkney and a six months' trip to the United States, settled down in London for two months. He will make *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST'S* subscribers' rooms at 42 Cannon Street, E.C., his headquarters while in town.

**MR. GEO. EADE** is Chairman of the Finance and Dispensary Committees of the Holborn Union, and on February 23 invited the members of those committees to dine with him at "Frascati's," in Oxford Street. The Chairman of the Board (Mr. Enos Howes, J.P.), in proposing Mr. Eade's health, said Mr. Eade was an invaluable member, not only because of his intimate knowledge of drugs, but also because of his excellent financing.

**MISS E. A. ORMEROD**, the authority on economic entomology, is to have the degree of Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) conferred on her by the Edinburgh University in recognition of her services rendered to agriculture. No person was ever more deserving of the honour that the Edinburgh University are conferring on Miss Ormerod than she is, but it is rare that the Scotch Universities confer the degree of LL.D. upon women. Miss Ormerod is only the second or third who has been so honoured. She has been a student of entomology for nearly fifty years, and when she was 15 years of age was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society's silver medal for a fine collection of drawings and models illustrative of insect-pests and their depredations.





## Winter Session.

Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

### Optical Society.

THE annual general meeting of the Society was held on February 22. The annual report records that there were on December 31 241 members of the Society, 125 of the number being London members. Appeal is made for donations or books towards the library which is being formed.

The accounts show a balance of 166*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* in hand and at bankers', but this includes 23*l.* 2*s.* received on behalf of 1900.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Dr. R. M. Walmesley; Hon. Treasurer and Secretary, Mr. W. Salt; Hon. Curator and Librarian, Mr. A. Jameson; new Councillors, (metropolitan) Messrs. Curtis, Ellis, Harris, Jameson, Mackinney, and Steward, (provincial) Messrs. Franks and Heywood.

### Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

AT Mason University College, Birmingham, on February 22, Mr. H. W. Jones, F.C.S., of Coventry, read a paper to the members of this Association, with Mr. Jeffrey Poole (the President) in the chair, on

#### THE RISE AND DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESSES.

Mr. JONES first took his hearers back to the year 1777, giving a short account of the knowledge then existing relative to light and its action on salts of silver. In that year Scheele made his first discovery, and in 1799 Boulton and Watt, of Birmingham, produced "sun-pictures," but left no account of their method. Allusion was made to the early work of Wedgwood, Davy, and others, and Mr. Jones discussed the first experiments of Niepce with bitumen, and Daguerre with silver plates exposed to iodine vapour, in relation to the final production of the first practical process of daguerreotype. An early negative by Fox Talbot's process, and a print from the same, were thrown on the screen by way of illustrating Fox Talbot's work; and Mr. Jones then explained the collodion process, and samples prepared by him, showing the difference between positives and negatives, were shown in the lantern, along with a series of views printed by the collodion process. The evolution of the modern dry-plate was discussed, the lecturer emphasising the fact that a Birmingham company produced the first commercial dry collodion plates, by the process of Dr. Hill Norris, as far back as 1856. Ultimately collodion as an emulsifying-medium was practically abandoned in favour of gelatin, first suggested by Dr. Maddox. Bennett, Stuart Wortley, and Mansfield improved the emulsion by suggestions for heating the gelatin compound, which, they found, added unusual sensitiveness. The dry-plate was practically completed in 1879. As illustrating the effect of heat,

#### PHOTOMICROGRAPHS

prepared by Mr. Jones were projected from the lantern, and showed the difference in size and physical condition of the particles of bromide of silver forming the sensitive surface of slow and rapid plates. As illustrating the extreme rapidity of modern dry-plates, slides were shown of flying bullets taken by Professor Boys's spark-process; also flashes of lightning and the positive discharge of the induction-coil. Mr. Jones also showed *x*-ray slides; an example of lace, the image of which had been produced in his own dark-room, entirely by the light of phosphorescent bacteria; "pressure-lines," resulting from pressure brought to bear on the plate, and showing on development an action similar to that resulting from light; and the "chemical image," the result of the action of peroxide of hydrogen evolved by zinc, printers' ink, and other substances, as determined by Dr. Russell's experiments. The use of the modern dry-plate to the astronomer was illustrated by slides of the moon taken in

various phases, whilst its employment by the naturalist was exemplified by a series of bird studies taken from life with the aid of the telephotographic lens. An account of the three-colour method of producing transparencies by Mr. Sanger Shepherd's process was then given, and a fine set of slides in natural colours, photographed from nature by the inventor, was shown to the audience.

### Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association.

IN connection with the above Association Mr. J. Dencer Whittles, L.D.S.Eng., gave a demonstration with an electric projecting microscope, at Mason University College, on February 21. Mr. Wm. Jones was in the chair, and Mr. Dencer Whittles showed a variety of animal and botanical specimens, bacilli, live animalcules, and illustrations of pond-life.

### Plymouth and District Chemists' Association.

AT a meeting held on Wednesday, February 21, Mr. F. Maitland (President) in the chair, a discussion on the Companies Act Amendment Bill, 1900, took place. The PRESIDENT remarked that they should vigorously oppose Clause 2, and with one great effort strive to obtain a new Pharmacy Act. There was such a diversity of opinion on the subject among chemists that he believed it would be perfectly useless to endeavour to alter Clause 2 so that it would be workable, and satisfy all. The Pharmaceutical Society, to whom they naturally looked for their policy, had not yet made up its mind, and it would be a waste of time and effort to approach Parliament unless they were perfectly unanimous in the matter. It would be a thousand pities if, through lack of combination and agreement among themselves, they allowed this opportunity to slip.

Mr. J. DAVY TURNEY moved that the Association recommend that the clause be most strenuously opposed, and that the resolutions passed at a previous meeting be confirmed—namely (1), that chemists' titles be protected, and (2) that it be illegal for unregistered persons to keep open shop for the sale of scheduled poisons. The one thing they were all agreed upon was the necessity to fight for the protection of their titles.

Mr. C. T. WEARY, in seconding the motion, remarked that it was highly important that they should remember the old adage, "Do not put all your eggs into one basket." The two main suggestions were, first, that a company should not be allowed to call itself a pharmaceutical chemist, or chemists and druggists, under any circumstances; and, secondly, that a company should not keep open shop for the sale of scheduled poisons. Would it not be wise to embody the two suggestions in two clauses instead of one, so that in the event of the first being lost they would have a chance of saving their titles?

Mr. J. COCKS, in reply to a question as to the policy of the Federation of Chemists' Associations, said that whatever might be the opinion of individual members of the Executive Committee of that body, to dictate was distinctly opposed to the policy of the Federation, its object being to ascertain and collect the opinions of local Associations and act accordingly.

Mr. W. H. WOODS regarded the protection of chemists' titles as a vital necessity, and looked upon a qualified directorate as a fraud that should be strongly opposed. He would oppose the proposed clause *in toto*, with the hope that a new Pharmacy Act doing justice to the craft might be introduced.

Mr. C. J. PARK said that, in addition to protecting their titles of pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists, they should endeavour to present an unbroken front, and demand that it should be unlawful for companies to sell or dispense medicines containing any of the scheduled poisons. It was contrary to the interests of the public and the craft that company-trading in this respect should be permitted, and in the case of certain firms of registered chemists who had converted their concerns into limited-liability companies for the sake of convenience, chiefly because they were doing a wholesale business in addition to the retail portion, it was suggested that the latter should be dissociated.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

### Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society.

At the Rutland Institute, Sheffield, on February 21, the members of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society met for the purpose of listening to essays by the students of the Society on "How to Spend a Profitable Half-holiday." Prizes for the best essays were offered by Mr. E. Squire (the President) and Mr. J. Austen. Mr. Squire occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance. Messrs. Cox, Tildesley, Wright, and Tate took part in the competition, and Messrs. Morrison and Pater attended for the purpose of adjudicating the prizes.

### Bradford and District Chemists' Association.

At a meeting of this Association at the County Restaurant, Bradford, on February 27, Mr. H. G. Rogerson presided over a fairly large attendance. On the motion of the CHAIRMAN a resolution of sympathy and condolence was passed to be forwarded to the relatives of the late Mr. A. Foster, first President of the Dewsbury Chemists' Association.

Mr. GEORGE WARD, F.I.C. (Leeds), then read a paper on

#### PHYSICAL TESTS OF THE PURITY OF DRUGS,

which was accompanied by interesting experiments. In the course of his address, Mr. Ward said those who had studied the B.P. 1898 would have noticed that very large additions had been made to the physical tests. For instance, the solubility of different substances in a given volume was in many instances made a definite test. With regard to testing solid bodies by the melting-point, they would find that great additions had been made also in that direction. A considerable amount of care and trouble must have been devoted to the compilation of these tests, as there were many more of them, and they were given in greater detail than formerly. The solidifying-point in one or two instances was also given as distinctive. Furthermore, they had quite a novel addition in the introduction of the specific optical-activity test. Proceeding to deal with

#### SPECIFIC CASES,

he pointed out that they were told in the Pharmacopœia that acetic acid should not give a clear solution with anything less than ten volumes of water, and he gave a practical illustration of the point. With regard to carbolic acid, alterations had been made with the object of excluding more clearly than was done before the cresylic acid. The lecturer then directed the attention of the members to the method of ascertaining the melting-point of various articles, remarking that there had always been a great amount of uncertainty as to the exact point where the body to be tested should be taken, both as to the melting-point and as to the soluble point. There had not been for a very long time any uniform method of taking the melting-point of a substance—every operator had done it in his own way. There were several methods available, among those cited being Redwood's, Alburg's, and Christomar's, the latter of which was an acoustic method depending upon the senses of hearing and seeing. The melting-point that had been adopted by the British Pharmacopœia was one like Alburg's, but considerably modified, and made much simpler. The lecturer then quoted variations which had been made with regard to the melting-point of certain articles, and claimed that this justified the Pharmacopœia in insisting upon a more definite melting-point than that which formerly obtained. He also dealt with the method of ascertaining specific gravity and determining the optical activity of a body. All these cases tended to show, he said, that the authorities were striving after as great a degree of purity as was commensurate with the freedom of trade. They were evidently anxiously endeavouring to obtain for medicinal purposes as pure an article as they could, and he maintained that they were right. Every pharmacist would see that the very existence of his craft was dependent upon his trying to bring his business and himself into line with this determination and this desire. True pharmacists should ever strive for purity of material and conscientiously discharge their duty as between the medical man and the patient, and, although they might have to wait a little while, there would come a time when the pure article at a reason-

able price would have preference over rubbish at the lowest price.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer, on the motion of Mr. JACKSON, seconded by Mr. J. R. SILSON.

### Public and Poor-law Dispensers' Association.

At the meeting held on Wednesday evening, February 28, Mr. F. N. Clark in the chair, Mr. FREDERICK DAVIS, of the Imperial College of Chemistry, read a paper entitled

#### SOME POINTS IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY.

The following mixture was found when dispensed by different pharmacists to vary in colour:—

Liq. arsenicalis	...	...	...	5j.
Tr. card. co.	...	...	...	5iv.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	5iv.

M.

Two specimens were sent for comparison, the one red, the other with a decided blue tint. The latter by analysis proved to have been prepared with ordinary in place of distilled water, with consequent change of colour of the cochineal contained in the tr. card. co. by the salts contained in the tap-water.

Chloral. hydrat.	...	...	...	5ij.
Pulv. boracis....	...	...	...	5iv.
Syr. tolu.	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ad...	...	...	...	5vj.

M.

Borax in hot solution decomposes chloral hydrate, producing chloroform, but not, like alkalis, in cold, therefore the solids in the above should be dissolved separately and the solutions mixed when cold.

Ol. terebinth....	...	...	...	5iv.
Pulv. tragac.	...	...	...	q.s.
Tr. aurantii	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ad...	...	...	...	5iv.

M.

Here, if the whole of the turpentine be introduced into a perfectly dry bottle, the necessary quantity of powdered tragacanth (20 gr.) shot into the centre of the turpentine without touching the sides of the bottle and slightly shaken, then at least three-fourths of the distilled water added at one addition and quickly shaken, afterwards adding the tr. aurant. and the remainder of the distilled water, a perfect mixture results.

Tr. nucis vom.	...	...	...	5ij.
Spt. ammon. co.	...	...	...	5iv.
Tr. card. co.	...	...	...	5iv.
Aq. ad...	...	...	...	5vj.

M.

In this mixture the prescriber had overlooked the fact that alkalis precipitate alkaloids. It would be necessary in this case to attach a "shake the bottle" label.

Resin. podophylli	...	...	...	5j.
Spt. rectificat.	...	...	...	5j.
Spt. ammon. arom.	...	...	...	5vj.
Syr. aurant.	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ad...	...	...	...	5iv.

Ft. mist.

Many dispensers seem to imagine that after dissolving the resin in the spirit the addition of the sal volatile will immediately reprecipitate it; this is not so. Podophyllin is more soluble in solution of ammonia than in spirit, hence it is advisable to dissolve in a mixture of the spt. amm. aromat. and spirit.

Liq. arsenicalis	...	...	...	5ij.
Liq. strych.	...	...	...	5j.
Tr. aurant.	...	...	...	5ij.
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	...	5ss.
Aq. ad...	...	...	...	5vj.

M.

From this mixture strychnine is thrown out in crystals by the pot. carb. in the liq. arsenicalis: this may be obviated by using liq. arsen. hydrochlor.

Acid. salicylic.	...	...	...	5ij.
Spt. aether. nit.	...	...	...	5vj.
Syr. tolu.	...	...	...	5j.
Aq. ad...	...	...	...	5vj.

Ft. mist.



Some dispensers think that the red colour only occurs when artificial salicylic acid or impure salicylic acid is employed. The author has experimented with a large number of chemically and physiologically pure salicylic acids, absolutely free from cresotic or paracresotic acids, and has obtained in each a similar coloration.

Lithii salicylatis	...	...	...	3ij.
Syr. tolu.	...	...	...	3iv.
Aq. anethi ad	...	...	...	3vj.

Ft. mist.

In this mixture, if the lithium salicylate be neutral, a brown coloration is developed in a few days. This is obviated by adding 4 gr. of salicylic acid.

Iodoform.	...	...	...	3j.
Ether. pur.	...	...	...	3ij.

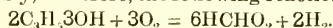
Ft. nebula.

This spray, which is now much used by surgeons, when first prepared is of a pale canary-colour, but in a day or two a brown colour is developed, produced by free iodine. This may be prevented by carefully corking—in other words, by excluding air, the oxygen of which, in the presence of ether, causes the liberation of iodine and the colour referred to.

Plumbi perox.	...	...	...	3ij.
Sodii hydrox.	...	...	...	5x.
Glycerini	...	...	...	5x.
Ol. olive	...	...	...	3ij.
Aq. ad...	...	...	...	5x.

Ft. applicatio.

It was found in making this preparation, heat being used, that a pungent vapour was generated, and it was first thought that acrolein had resulted from the decomposed glycerin. This, however, was not the case, for upon further investigation the vapour evolved proved to be formic acid, and presumably, therefore, the following reaction occurred:—



The author has ascertained by experiment that this reaction does take place when the peroxide of lead, sodium hydroxide, and glycerin are heated together.

Plumbi acet.	...	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. alum.	...	...	...	3ij.

Ft. pulvis.

If rubbed together in a mortar these powders produce a moist mass. To prevent this and dispense as a powder, the substance should be separately dried and then mixed, or they may be separately powdered and mixed on paper with a bone spatula. The formation of a pasty mass is explained by the interchange of radicles and setting free of the water of crystallisation.

Ferri sulph. xtal.	...	...	...	gr. iij.
Acid. tannici	...	...	...	gr. j.
Ol. theobrom.	...	...	...	q.s.

Ft. suppos.

A suppository having the colour of oil of theobroma is made by reducing the ferrous sulphate and the tannic acid to powder separately, rubbing each separately with a little oil of theobroma with separate bone spatulas, then adding the two to the remainder of the melted oil, stirring, and pouring into mould.

Camphor.	...	...	...	3j.
Phenol.	...	...	...	3j.

Ft. applicatio.]

About half-a-dozen different chemical compounds may be obtained from camphor and phenol in varying proportions, of which, perhaps, the most simple is phenol camphoride.

Zinci oxidi	...	...	...	3j.
Saxolei purificati	...	...	...	3j.

Ft. unguentum.

The only difficulty in this prescription is the intention of the prescriber respecting the latter ingredient; if soft paraffin were employed little objection could be raised.

Argenti nit.	...	...	...	3j.
Sodii chlor.	...	...	...	3j.
Pulv. amyli ad	...	...	...	3j.

Ft. pulv. pro inspir.

After a time this powder assumed a dark colour. It was

first thought that the formation of oxychloride of silver was the cause of this darkening, but upon analysis no oxychloride could be detected, but subchloride of silver was present to a marked degree.

The author also spoke about stramonium extract, and cocoa-butter adulterated with the solid portion obtained from coconut oil (detected by the differences in iodine-absorption). In reference to the Minor examination he suggested, as clerks to public institutions think it is an inferior examination, that the Association should pass a resolution asking the Pharmaceutical Society to change the name of the examination, so that those qualified by examination of the Pharmaceutical Society should occupy the status to which they are entitled as educated men.

Mr. J. LANGFORD MOORE questioned whether hot or cold water made the difference in the decomposition of chloral and borax mixture. In regard to the tr. nuc. vom. and spt. amm. aromat. he thought that the precipitation would be most likely fat; and

Mr. MILLER said probably most dispensers forget to note this precipitation, and if so it ought to be remembered.

Mr. R. JONES said there should be no hesitation in substituting liq. arsen. hyd. for liq. arsenicalis, and a short discussion followed on the mixture of argent. nit. and sodii chlor.

Letters were read by the SECRETARY from various dispensers in the provinces, expressing sympathy with the aims of the Association. Various Poor-law members reported that Major Herbert, L.G.B. inspector, had lately been making strict inquiries about the storage and dispensing of poisons in the various Unions. It was announced that Mr. Idris, L.C.C., would take the chair at the next meeting.

### Northampton Chemists' Association.

At a recent meeting of the Northampton chemists the initial steps were taken to form an Association for the town and district, and, after the business was concluded, Mr. Mayger, the senior chemist of the town, very kindly invited his brother-chemists to a dinner. This took place on February 22, when over twenty chemists and assistants partook of an excellent repast. Mr. MAYGER expressed regret that two or three gentlemen were unable to be present through illness, amongst the number being the energetic Local Secretary (Mr. John Bingley, F.C.S.). Mr. G. C. DRUCE, M.A., of Oxford, spoke of the pleasure it afforded him in being present: being an old Northampton chemist and having a great affection for the town, he was always glad to renew acquaintance with his friends there. The usual toasts were proposed and honoured, that of "The Queen" being most enthusiastically received. Speeches and songs followed, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

### Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

THE meeting of the Association on February 23 resolved itself into a "smoker" with Mr. J. P. Taylor in the chair. There was a fair attendance, and a first-class programme of songs and musical selections was gone through to the evident satisfaction of all present. Owing to the illness of Dr. Coull (Edinburgh), it was announced that his lecture on "Stereochemistry" on March 2 would be postponed until March 9 or later.

### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

At the meeting held in the rooms in Newman Street on February 22, Mr. R. E. Lownsbrough read some notes on entomology. He gave it a rather clever introduction, which we print:—

The chemist has many calls made upon him to view the "insect-world" with a greater regard and more esteem than the majority of people. The dislike, often aspiring to hatred, for such members of this group of animals as bugs, fleas, mosquitoes, wasps, earwigs, and blackbeetles offers to the enterprising chemist the opening to earn an honest coin, a commercial prospect in the direction of—

Insect powders; the abrupt request for "a penn'orth o' lop powder, mister," for the renowned "Keatings," or for the 4d. "something just as good."

Fly-catchers, sticky or otherwise, in every variety.

Moth crystals and papers.

Phosphor paste for the benefit of blackbeetles.

Remedies for mosquito and gnat bites.

Anodyne for bee-stings, for those whose knowledge of natural history has been no greater than that of 'Arriet, who shows to 'Arry a bee which alights on her hand, with this remark: "Say, 'Arry, wot a pritty fly! Cricky! ain't its feet 'ot."

Wheat-dressings for the agriculturist to protect his seeds from their many enemies.

Tobacco-sheets and arsenical washes for the horticulturist to wage war on plant-lice.

Sheep-dips for the farmer.

Concoctions for the fruit-grower to protect his trees from the onslaught of the larvæ of many moths.

These are some of our business-calls.

After this the author gave the members the scientific side of the matter, showing how excellent a thing entomology is to those who take it up as a hobby.

## Westminster Wisdom.

### THE COMPANIES BILL.

The Government measure has not yet made any progress, and now stands on the orders of the day for second reading on March 1. That is a purely formal motion. In the House on Friday, February 23, Mr. James Bryce asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether he intended to take the second reading of the Bill before the Easter vacation, and, if so, whether he would undertake, having regard to the prominent place occupied by the Bill in her Majesty's gracious Speech, and the wide interest felt in it, that at least three days' notice should be given of the day when it would be taken.

Mr. Balfour replied, "I will endeavour to give the notice which the right hon. gentleman desires;" whereupon Sir John Brunner asked, "Will it be taken before Easter?" to which Mr. Balfour answered, "I hope so."

The same evening Mr. T. P. O'Connor gave notice that, on the motion for the second reading of the Bill, he would move that it should be read that day six months.

We understand that Mr. O'Connor has not moved in this matter on behalf of chemists and druggists. Perhaps some of his constituents will try to convert him to a proper understanding of the chemists' position.

On Monday evening a petition from Bolton (Lancashire) in respect to the Bill was ordered to lie on the table.

The interest in the pharmacy clause of the Bill is growing in the House, thanks to the correspondence of chemists and druggists throughout the country, who have written to the Parliamentary representatives of their districts. Representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society (Great Britain) and of the drug companies have been visiting the lobbies. It is understood that neither section of these lobbyists is satisfied with the reception given to it by the Government. The President of the Board of Trade has declined to modify Clause 2 so as to exclude the requirement for exhibiting the name of the qualified manager. This the company-representatives are anxious should be done. The Pharmaceutical Councillors have had equally poor heartening from the Government, and Mr. Ritchie has plainly stated that he will rather drop Clause 2 altogether than alter it. Supporters of the Government, as well as members on the Opposition side, have intimated their intention of securing amendment of the clause, and it is proposed that an amendment should be entered to Clause 3, bringing chemists and druggists within the scope of that clause.

### METROPOLITAN DOCKS.

The Bills introduced on behalf of the London and India Docks Joint Committee to alter the mode of charging, and to amalgamate the two companies, are to be opposed on the motion for second reading. The Committee appears to be much alarmed at this, and has been circularising the members in regard to the matter and pointing out that the scheme is merely a domestic one turning a working union into an amalgamation by dovetailing the stocks, and giving no further powers of charging, and not affecting the public in any way.

The London Chamber of Commerce is trying to nullify the dock companies' appeal to members of Parliament by one of its own, asking members to oppose the second reading of the Bills, on the ground that the proposals contained in them are calculated to affect prejudicially the trade of London. Two of the pharmaceutical members of the London County Council (Mr. Idris and Mr. R. A. Robinson) are taking a leading part in endeavouring to get the Government to appoint a commission to inquire into the whole subject of docks and wharfs on the Thames.

### FOOD-PRESERVATIVES.

The Departmental Committee which has been investigating the use of preservatives and colouring-matters in food expects to be in a position to report next autumn.

### THE SUPPLY OF DRINKING-WATER.

Mr. Chaplin, President of the Local Government Board, is preparing a Bill in regard to the public supply of drinking-water, which will deal with the quality as well as the quantity supplied.

### MIDWIVES BILL.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor has given notice that, on second reading, he will move that it be read a second time six months afterwards—that is, when the members are partridge-shooting or doing something else equally harmless to posterity.

### COMMERCIAL AGENTS ABROAD.

Mr. Brodrick, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, informed the House on Monday evening that commercial agents have already been appointed in Russia, China, and Central America, and two more, to be stationed in Switzerland and the United States, will shortly be appointed.

### A MAIDEN EFFORT.

Sir Michael Foster was on March 1 to ask the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education whether, in the impending organisation of secondary education, and more particularly in the appointment of a secretary, due regard will be had, apart from any special provision for technological training, to the importance of securing adequate recognition of scientific teaching in technical schools.

### REGISTRATION OF FIRMS BILL.

This Bill, which is introduced by Mr. Emmot, Mr. Philip Stanhope, and several other members, has for its object the registration of firms carrying on or having any place of business in the United Kingdom under a trade-name which does not consist of the full or usual names of all the partners or acting partners without any name or addition other than the name of the person carrying on the business. In the case of the reconstitution of a firm, registration is also provided for within one month after such change, and a registered firm changing its trade-name shall be re-registered. Registration is to be entrusted to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, and provision is made for inspection of registers, as in the case of limited companies. The Board of Trade would administer the Act.

### NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

In the course of his speech on the Naval Estimates on February 26, Mr. Goschen made the following remarks:—

There is one other important branch of the Service about which I should like to say a word. I mean the medical service. We are doing what we can to give the medical officers in the Navy greater opportunities for studying and informing themselves generally with reference to the progress of medical science, and also to relieve them of burdens which seem to us unjust. Hitherto the medical officers have had to supply their own surgical instruments, and, as a consequence, these instruments and drugs, which are so essential for the welfare of the sailors, have not been carried in sufficient quantities. We have, therefore, thought it our duty to improve this service to the best of our ability.

This decision is in accordance with the recommendation of a Select Committee which reported a few months ago and to which we referred at the time. It will add an important item to the Navy medical contracts which have hitherto been obtained by wholesale druggists.



## The Companies on the Bill.

THE following is a copy of a circular which has been sent to members of Parliament by the Drug Companies' Association (Limited), which was registered in July, 1898, "to support and protect the character, status, and interests of companies carrying on the business of chemists and druggists by parliamentary action, &c." The capital is 10,000%, and the signatories were the managing directors of the seven biggest drug-companies in Great Britain. Mr. Jesse Boot is Chairman of the Association:—

### Companies Acts Amendment Bill.

SECTION 2.—No Company may carry on the business and use the description of a Pharmaceutical Chemist or Chemist and Druggist unless such business is bona fide conducted by a manager or assistant being a duly registered Pharmaceutical Chemist or Chemist and Druggist as the case may require, and unless the name of the person so qualified is conspicuously posted in the shop or other place in which the business is carried on, but, subject to this provision anything which would be an offence under Section 15 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, if committed by an individual, shall be an offence if committed by a Company.

A determined attempt is being made to induce MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT to PLEDGE THEMSELVES to support some amendment of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, under cover of the Companies Acts Amendment BILL, which Bill is expected to be again submitted to Parliament in the coming session.

When the Pharmaceutical Society laid certain statements before the Departmental Committee which was appointed to draw up a Bill to amend the Companies Acts, that Committee stated in their Report \* that in their opinion the Companies Bill should not be made use of to amend pharmacy law, but that, if any amendment were necessary, a Bill dealing directly with the subject should be laid before Parliament. Nevertheless, a clause (as quoted above) was introduced into the Companies Bill which was submitted to Parliament during last session, with the obvious intention of removing any supposed grievance of which CHEMISTS might complain. They were, however, dissatisfied with this clause, as it did not give them what they wanted. They had DEMANDED of the Lord Chancellor the MONOPOLY of the retail sale of ALL DRUGS, and also many other extravagant and impossible things. At the present time they evidently have not made up their minds as to what they want. They are only united in the desire to do all they can to injure stores and companies who deal in chemists' articles.

We hope that no member of Parliament will be induced to pledge himself to support any alteration in the existing pharmacy laws solely by the interested statements made by chemists, which, of course, represent one side of the question only.

We confine ourselves at the present time to noticing only one of these statements. It has been plainly asserted by chemists again and again that any number of unqualified persons can, with the assistance of the Companies Acts, sell with impunity unlimited quantities of scheduled poisons. This statement is absolutely contrary to fact. No Person, unless he be a Fully-qualified and Registered Chemist, can now Sell by Retail any Scheduled Poison whatever without rendering himself Liable to Pains and Penalties.

The judgment in the House of Lords, in the celebrated case which defined and established the rights of companies with regard to carrying on chemists' businesses,† made this point absolutely clear, and that judgment has ever since been acted upon. Lord Blackburn said: "There can be no Sale unless a Person, a Natural Person, manages the Sale, and that Person, if Unqualified, would clearly become Liable to the Penalty." The Lord Chancellor (Selborne) said: "The act of compounding, or any act mentioned in the sections by which penalties are imposed, is struck at, whether done by the principal or any person whom he employs."

Therefore the Pharmaceutical Society can obtain a Conviction against any Unqualified Person who sells scheduled poisons, and it has frequently obtained such convictions. The liability to conviction is not affected in the slightest degree by the question as to whether or not the accused is employed by or connected with any company.

We desire also to be allowed to point out to you that this is not simply a matter between a small number of chemists on the one hand and a smaller number of companies on the other, but that it

is one of far greater importance to the public at large, as stores and companies dealing in chemists' articles **Number their Customers by Millions**. All these persons, if they were deprived by law of the conveniences and advantages which they now enjoy, would feel aggrieved, and their dissatisfaction at being prevented from laying out their money to the best advantage can readily be imagined.

We do not now presume to ask that you should adopt our views with regard to this matter, but we do earnestly and respectfully beg that you will **NOT PLEDGE YOURSELF** to support fresh legislation upon the subject without hearing both sides of the question, and we should be pleased to lay before you our views with regard to it at any time, and in any manner that you may think best.

Published by the Drug Companies' Association (Limited), 3 Bond Court, Walbrook, London.

The following has been sent to us as a copy of a letter which the qualified assistants of a leading drug-company have been required to write, sign, and send to their managing director, so that he may ensure the posting of all the letters to members of Parliament:—

### COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

SIR,—As the Member of Parliament for my district, will you allow me respectfully to call your attention to the second clause of the above Bill, which deals with chemists' departments and shops owned by stores and companies. The clause as it stands is not open to serious objection, but it is reported that an effort will be made to pass some amendments to this clause and which would have the effect of seriously hampering companies carrying on chemists' business under the direct management and control of fully qualified and registered chemists. I have been for many years engaged in assisting —s Drug Company in carrying on their business, and can testify, from intimate personal experience, that they are able and safely conducted. I consider they are a great boon to the public, and that no legislative interference is called for beyond the provision of Clause 2, and which interference might seriously affect my interests as well as those of the public at large. I respectfully beg that you will oppose amendment to that clause if you can see your way to do so, and thereby oblige,

Yours truly,  
[Manager's name],  
Registered Chemist and Druggist  
by examination.

Chemists' assistants can do something to counteract this sort of thing, we think.

## Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MESSRS. DUNCAN, FLOCKHART & Co.'s London branch has been removed from Snow Hill to larger premises at 143 Farringdon Road, E.C.

THE Taylor Brothers Company, thermometer-makers 105 Hatton Garden, E.C., are on March 1 removing to more commodious premises at 103 Hatton Garden, E.C.

MR. W. HOOD WANDLESS, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business lately carried on at 83 Duke Street, Whitehaven, by Messrs. E. A. Allatt & Co.

DR. J. F. HOLTZ has been appointed director of the Chemische Fabrik auf Actien, vormals E. Schering, Berlin, in place of the late Mr. Wilhelm Dittmar.

A BRANCH PHARMACY has been opened at China Street Lancaster, under the management of Mr. John Harrison, pharmaceutical chemist, by Martyn's Stores (Limited).

It is rumoured that Richmond will be shortly invaded by a fresh contingent of drug-companies. Competition is already very severe in this attractive little town, "which, being so well supplied with established pharmacies, does not stand in need of outsiders," writes a correspondent. One active man sends out a scout seated upon a tricycle with the prominent announcement, "The cheapest and best chemist." Whether this style pays or not the C. and B. C. knows best.

A BIG OPIUM-CARGO.—One of the largest shipments of opium received at San Francisco for some time was brought from the Orient by the ss. *Coptic* on February 16. It consisted of 581 cases, and weighed 23,820 lbs. The value of the opium, duty paid, was about \$400,000.

\* See Report, 1895, page viii.

† The Pharmaceutical Society v. The London and Provincial Supply Association (Limited), House of Lords, July 22, 1880.

## The Citral-content of Lemon Oil.

By ERNEST J. PARRY, B.Sc., F.I.C.

THE custom of guaranteeing a definite citral-content in oil of lemon is exceedingly common in Sicily, and is naturally reflected in this market. It has frequently been pointed out in these columns by various writers that not only is the statement of a citral-content worthless unless the method of estimation be given, but that the interpretation of the result, when obtained, is a matter of considerable difficulty. In a paper published in these columns by the chemists of the London Essence Company recently, it was stated that no pure essence of lemon contained, in their experience, more than 4 per cent. of citral, thus emphasising the remarkable fact that the usual citral-guaranteed oil of lemon seldom contains, according to the guarantee, less than 6.5 to 7.5 per cent. of citral. I disagreed at the time with the results obtained by the above-named chemists, and do so now, even more emphatically. I have obtained numerous samples of oil from Messina and Palermo, through friends who have gone to considerable trouble to see that I had the samples exactly as they were expressed, and I find between 5 and 6 per cent. a very common citral-content. Whether more than 7 per cent. is ever found is, I think, exceedingly doubtful, and that figure may in my opinion be regarded as the maximum. The question of the exact estimation of citral is naturally of importance, and the whole matter has received very great attention at the hands of the late Professor Tiemann in reference to the lemongrass-aldehyde question. The application of the compound which he discovered, citralidene-cyanacetic acid, to the estimation of citral in lemon oil, gives certainly the most concordant, and probably the most accurate, results of all known processes. He has shown that single extraction with the usual sodium-bisulphite solution of lemongrass oil leaves a non-absorbed residue still containing a comparatively large amount of citral. The use of a solution of sodium sulphite and bicarbonate yields a rather higher citral result, but the residue still contains a little of the aldehyde.

The reaction with cyanacetic acid, on the other hand, leaves a non-absorbed residue in which no trace of citral can be detected, and I notice that the characteristic odours of Messina and Palermo oils are much accentuated when the oils are freed from terpenes and aldehydes, and samples of Palermo oil have a faint but distinct bergamot odour under these circumstances, due, of course, to the presence of linalyl acetate, which was detected by J. C. Umney. By operating in the following manner I have obtained results which are almost exactly concordant. Two hundred cubic centimetres of the oil are concentrated to 25 c.c. in a Wurtz flask under a pressure which should not exceed 15 mm. The 175 c.c. of terpenes obtained contain a little citral, but the quantity is so small that it may be neglected. Ten cubic centimetres of the residue, of which the sp. gr. is known, is shaken with a solution of 5 grammes of cyanacetic acid and 5 grammes of ordinary caustic soda in 30 c.c. of water in a small absorption-flask with a long graduated neck, and the non-absorbed residue read off as usual. The sp. gr. of citral is so near that of the concentrated oil used that they may be taken as identical.

In duplicate experiments on the same oils, the following results were obtained:—

Sp. gr. of oil, 0.860.

Sp. gr. of concentrated 25 c.c., 0.898.

10 c.c. (= 80 c.c. original oil) gave  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\alpha) 4.35, (\beta) 4.30 \text{ absorbed.} \\ (\alpha) 5.65, (\beta) 5.70 \text{ unabsorbed.} \end{array} \right.$

Taking the sp. gr. of citral as 0.897, the results become 5.67 per cent. and 5.61 per cent. This is, of course, a

selected example, where the concordance is almost complete, but I find that, with careful manipulation, results can be obtained which vary within 0.2 per cent.; and as Professor Tiemann, after extremely laborious research, came to the conclusion that the combination of citral with cyanacetic acid was absolutely complete, there seems no reason why this process should not be adopted for lemon oil, and the method quoted on the certificate. The only objection is that cyanacetic acid is a somewhat expensive reagent.

## Reviews.

*Hall's Registered System for the Consignment of Merchandise by Rail.*  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ . 3s. 6d. (Edinburgh Wilson, Royal Exchange E.C.)

MR. HALL explains his system of conveying small parcels of merchandise at tonnage rates without having to pack all goods for each town in one package. The object is to effect a saving in carriage and considerable financial gain on the charges of parcel companies or railway rates for smalls.

*Dictionnaire des Termes de Médecine, Français-Anglais.* Par H. de Méric.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. vi+243. 4s. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.)

THIS is the companion volume to the "English-French Dictionary of Medical Terms," reviewed in these columns January 28, 1898, page 130. The terms are mainly medical, and we have found it serviceable on several occasions since we have had the book. At the end there are a table of weights and measures and an ordonnance for a pill and mixture contrasted with an English prescription.

*Revue des Médicaments Nouveaux et de Quelques Médications Nouvelles.* Par C. Crinon.  $6 \times 4$ . Pp. 424. 4f. (Rueff, 106 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris.)

IN this, the seventh edition of the "Revue," M. Crinon has all new medicines introduced during 1899. The most important additions are cacodylic acid and cacodylate of soda, aspirine, dionine, dormiol, the egols, nirvanine, tannocol, tenalgine, and urosine. Some of the articles, such as those on formol and tuberculine, have been rewritten and brought up to date. The style of the book is concise, and it will be a useful compilation for those who desire to keep abreast of the many new remedies used in medicine.

*Introduction to the Commercial Sciences.* By E. E. WHITFIELD, M.A.  $7 \times 5$ . Pp. 304. 3s. 6d. Rivingtons.

THIS is a book which largely represents graduated instruction given in the first instance by the writer to his private pupils. Now, however, it fulfils the wider purpose of a guide to the treatment of such studies in schools that are giving effect, as far as circumstances allow, to the scheme promoted by the Chambers of Commerce throughout the British Empire. The book has also gained recognition in some commercial schools on the Continent. Mr. Whitfield, who is lecturer at the High School of Commerce, University College, Liverpool, naturally deals with his subject in a highly-condensed manner, but he has made his book so interesting that the student of commerce who wishes to know how modern business is conducted cannot fail to be benefited. The work consists of a series of twenty-nine lessons, commencing with a concise explanation of commercial and industrial law and the factors of production. In subsequent lessons the author deals with the general law of contracts, business correspondence, capital, partnerships, principal and agent, exchange, credit in general, interest and profit, banking, stocks and shares, &c. In the course of the lessons many commercial technical terms are explained, and with the idea of stimulating further study the German and French equivalents have been added as footnotes. In an appendix nine sets of examination-papers are also given. The book is essentially one that ought to be placed in the hands of every young man entering commercial life, and even to those who consider themselves well versed in political economy as adapted to the daily operations of business, it will prove good reading. Only the other day we were told by a Mincing Lane man, whose son had just left school, that a good "business guide" was not to be found. This decidedly fills the bill.



## Corner for Students.

### PHARMACY.

#### ACETA AND ACIDA DILUTA.

IN considering the galenical preparations of the Pharmacopœia, it will be convenient to take them in alphabetical order.

The basis of the aceta is acetic acid, which is defined in the Pharmacopœia as "a product of the destructive distillation of wood and ["or" is the better conjunctive] of the oxidation of ethylic alcohol." The term "destructive distillation" means that compound organic substances are heated to a temperature at which decomposition occurs, the result being that the distillate contains substances which did not exist in the same condition in the original substance. Wood by such distillation yields gaseous products (carbonic monoxide and dioxide, marsh-gas, &c.), aqueous liquids (methyl alcohol, acetic, formic, and other acids), and tarry liquids (guaiacol, creosol, phenol, and many other organic compounds). The best acetic acid is made by subjecting oak wood to a carefully regulated heat, the temperature being much less than is required to char the wood. The advantages of the reduced temperature are the lessening of the production of objectionable impurities and economy, the slightly charred wood being more valuable than the charcoal left when a high temperature is employed. The impure acetic acid, or pyroligneous acid, is redistilled, the acid liquid neutralised by sodium carbonate, the acetate of soda purified by recrystallisation, and finally distilled with sulphuric acid and water.

Acetic acid is also made by the oxidation of dilute alcoholic liquids under the influence of the *Mycoderma aceti*, or acetic ferment. The liquid is allowed to trickle over beech-wood shavings, and the alcohol is rapidly oxidised, being converted first into aldehyde and then into acetic acid.

Acetic acid so prepared is a colourless liquid having a strong acid reaction and a pungent agreeable odour. Acetic acid B.P. contains 33 per cent. of real acid, and has a sp. gr. of 1.044. The "acid. acetic. fort." of commerce usually contains only 30 per cent. of real acid—a fact which should be noted by pharmacists as well as by students.

Glacial acetic acid is obtained by distilling anhydrous sodium acetate with sulphuric acid. It contains 99 per cent. of real acid, and crystallises in cold weather, remaining solid till the temperature rises above 60° F., hence the term "glacial." This acid when diluted with water acts quite differently from other strong acids, inasmuch as the addition of water increases the sp. gr., in place of decreasing it. The sp. gr. of 99-per-cent. acid is 1.058, and the addition of 15 per cent. of water causes it to rise to 1.073. Further addition of water reduces the sp. gr., and 46-per-cent. acid has the same gravity as 99-per-cent. This abnormal behaviour is utilised by the B.P. to provide a test for glacial acid, but a better test is its perfect solution with an equal volume of oil of turpentine: a weaker acid gives a muddy mixture.

ACETA, or vinegars, are three in number, and may be defined as solutions of the active principles of drugs in acetic acid.

*Acetum Cantharidis* is a solution of cantharidin and organic matter, the active principle being present to the extent of about 0.05 per cent. It is prepared by macerating and percolating cantharides in a mixture of equal parts of glacial acetic acid and water. Strength 1 in 10. It is found that more cantharidin is dissolved by 50-per-cent. than by 33-per-cent. acid.

*Acetum Ipecacuanhæ* is made from the liquid extract, 1 in 20, with dilute acetic acid and alcohol, the alkaloidal strength being 0.1 per cent. A controversy has recently arisen as to the keeping-properties of the liquid extract and the wine of ipecacuanha, but so far no one seems to have found fault with the acetum. It may possibly be that the absence of acid in the former preparations is the source of the trouble, acetate of emetine being more stable than the free alkaloid.

*Acetum Scillæ*.—Prepared by maceration in dilute acetic acid, strength 1 in 8.

The student is recommended to tabulate all the galenical preparations under their respective headings; in the case of *aceta* showing at a glance the menstrua, the strengths, the processes, and where possible the alkaloidal content. For

this purpose a quarto note-book should be employed, and the facts tabulated in such a manner as follows:—

*Aceta or Vinegars*.—No. in B.P. 3 (across the page).

First column: Names.

Second column: Ingredients of each preparation.

Third column: How made.

Fourth column: Strength of active ingredients.

Fifth column: Dose or use.

Sixth column: Any special memoranda.

The British Pharmacopœia will provide most of the details, but in addition to it the student will find it advantageous to read a commentary on the B.P., such as Squire's or Lucas's.

ACIDA DILUTA are made (with one exception, acid. hydrocyanic, dil.) by diluting the strong acids with distilled water. The acids are prescribed in the B.P. formulæ by volume or weight, and the water a sufficiency to make a definite volume, hence the mixture of acid and water alters in temperature, generally becoming hot: it is necessary to allow the mixture to cool to 60° F. before adjusting the volume. It would be better if the B.P. would prescribe definite weights of acids and water. The table dealing with the dilute acids should include the preparation, percentage strength, sp. gr., neutralising-power, and dose.

*Acid. Acetic. Dil.*—1 in 7; contains 4.27 per cent. acetic acid 1 gramme requires 0.71 c.c. normal soda for neutralisation sp. gr. 1.006.

*Acid. Hydrochlor. Dil.*—6 in 20; 10.58 per cent. HCl; 1 gramme requires 2.9 c.c. normal soda; sp. gr. 1.052.

*Acid. Hydrobromic. Dil.*—Contains 10 per cent. HBr; sp. gr. 1.077; neutralising-power, 1 gramme requires 1.25 c.c. normal soda. It is prepared by distilling potassium bromide with phosphoric acid—an improvement on the old process (passing H<sub>2</sub>S into Br and water), which frequently produced an acid having an objectionable sulphur odour. The original hydrobromic acid of Fothergill was made by double decomposition of potassium bromide and tartaric acid in presence of water, hydrobromic acid and acid potassium tartrate being formed, some of the latter always remaining in solution.

*Acid. Nitric. Dil.*—3.86 in 20; 17.44 per cent. HNO<sub>3</sub>; 1 gramme requires 2.7 c.c. normal soda; sp. gr. 1.101.

*Acid. Nitro-Hydrochlor. Dil.*—Three nitric and 4 hydrochloric acids in 32; 1 gramme = 2.5 normal soda; sp. gr. 1.07. The acids are diluted with the water and kept in a glass-stoppered bottle for fourteen days before being used. Free chlorine is produced and nitrous acid. The reaction takes place in an hour, in a mixture of the strong acids as ordered by the old Dublin Pharmacopœia, and the resulting aqua regia dissolved in water gives a solution very similar to the B.P. preparation.

*Acid. Sulph. Aromat.*—About 1 in 14 with tincture of ginger, spirit of cinnamon, and alcohol; percentage = 13.8; sp. gr. about .926; 1 gramme = 2.7 c.c. normal soda. The sulphuric acid should be added very gradually, otherwise much loss of spirit will result owing to the heat produced, while the colour of the preparation will also vary with the temperature.

*Acid. Sulph. Dil.*—1.65 in 20; 13.65 per cent. acid; sp. gr. 1.094; 1 gramme = 2.8 c.c. normal soda. In preparing dilute sulphuric acid the student should be careful to measure out nearly the whole of the water, and pour the sulphuric acid gradually into it, and on no account to reverse the process, otherwise very great heat is developed, which would be fatal to ordinary glass vessels. There is, of course, as much heat developed in one way as the other, but when the acid is added to most of the water the heat is distributed instead of being confined to a small volume as in the reverse way of mixing. The B.P. recommends half the water to be put in the flask: let it be more rather than less.

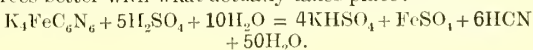
*Acidum Lacticum*.—A 75-per-cent. acid produced by the fermentation of lactose, or milk-sugar. A piece of "high" cheese is added to a solution of milk-sugar, or to whey, and some chalk to neutralise the acid, and the whole set aside for three weeks at a temperature of not less than 80° F. The crystals of calcium lactate that are formed are removed, dissolved in water, and decomposed by sulphuric acid. Alcohol is added, the solution filtered, and the filtrate evaporated to a syrup.

*Acid. Phosphoric. Dil.*—3 in 20; 13.8 per cent.; sp. gr. 1.08. Prepared by diluting the concentrated acid with water.

*Acid. Hydrocyanic. Dil.*—This contains 2 per cent. of HCN, and may be prepared by distilling ferrocyanide of potassium with dilute sulphuric acid; the following is the text-book equation representing the reaction:—



Recently Mr. R. H. Adie has shown that the following agrees better with what actually takes place:—



This acid should be kept in bottles tied over with impervious tissue, in a dark place, or in amber-coloured bottles, and inverted. The precautions are multiplied needlessly in the B.P., as, if the bottle be inverted, there is no necessity for impervious tissue, provided, of course, the stopper is water-tight. It appears to have been the practice of some manufacturers to add hydrochloric acid to preserve acid, but this is no longer permissible, as one of the B.P. tests excludes excess of chlorides.

#### THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

In their calendar just issued the Educational Institute of Scotland announces that arrangements are being made for conducting the general knowledge examination for the certificates required by the Pharmaceutical Society. The next examination after July will be held on September 18, 19, and 20, and it is proposed to hold it in Aberdeen, Dundee, and Dumfries, in addition to Edinburgh and Glasgow. The only prescribed work is in Latin, for which Cæsar ("De Bello Gallico," Book IV.) and Virgil ("Æneid," Book VI., lines 1-402) are specified; in addition, passages from unseen authors. The fee is 1/., and candidates can take all six subjects, or as many at a time as they please. The College of Preceptors has made no special arrangements for pharmaceutical students, believing that the existing examinations will cover their needs. These examinations are held in March, July, September, and December of each year in London and a large number of local centres throughout the country, a list of which may be obtained on application to the Secretary of the College of Preceptors, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

#### COLLEGE NOTES.

**SOUTH LONDON SCHOOL OF PHARMACY.**—On Monday, February 26, the staff and present students of this School dined together at the Trocadero Restaurant at the invitation of Dr. Muter, on the occasion of his birthday and to celebrate the thirty-second anniversary of the School. Covers were laid for seventy-two guests, and the dinner was served in an elegant manner. In giving the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, reference was made to the fact that several of the students had gone to the "front" as Imperial Yeomen and in the Hospital Corps. Dr. Muter's health was proposed by the Rev. S. Bache Harris, Vicar of Kennington. During the evening a presentation of a gold card-case was made to Dr. Muter as a souvenir of the occasion, and after the toasts a smoking-concert was given by the musical students.

**STUDENTS AT THE PANTOMIME.**—On February 22 the students of University College, Liverpool, together with the School of Pharmacy students, to the number of about 400, paid their customary annual visit to the pantomime at the Royal Court Theatre. Assembling in the College grounds at 12.30 P.M., a victorious march was begun (Field-Marshal Benington in command) *via* London Road and Lime Street. The regimental flag-bearers were very conspicuous with enormous and well-inscribed banners, whilst the amateur musical professors strove to out rival each other in the performance of their duty. Arriving at the theatre an hour before the rise of the curtain, impromptu speeches, patriotic songs, and good-humoured chaff were indulged in. The principal ladies were presented with bouquets, lowered to the stage by means of wires, whilst the ladies of the chorus were favoured with boxes of sweetmeats, and eventually bombarded with bunches of violets. The utmost good feeling prevailed between the occupants of the stage and the gallery.

**SHEFFIELD COLLEGE OUTING.**—The students of this College visited the electroplate-works of Messrs. Walker & Hall, Sheffield, on Shrove Tuesday, where they were shown the great variety of silver articles manufactured by the firm. The process of electro-depositing of copper, silver, and gold on manufactured articles by means of electricity supplied by dynamos of low voltage was inspected, the silversmiths' department was visited, and ivory and pearl haft carving and embossing and chasing were watched with much interest.

In the showroom were seen the first spoons plated in Sheffield by Mr. Geo. Walker, the founder of the firm, as well as the apparatus he used.

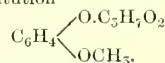
In the afternoon the students visited Handsworth nurseries. In the orchid-house were noticed the dendrobium, with its trilipped perianth and the cattileija, with four pollinia. In the fern-house the staghorn fern and golden fern were shown by the superintendent. The day's outing proved most instructive.

### Scientific Progress.

**The Atomic Weights.**—The Atomic Weights Commission of the German Chemical Society have just published their report for the current year. The alterations are not of great importance, but current research has caused the Commission to make the following changes:—Cadmium, 112.4 (*vice* 112); cobalt, 59 (*vice* 58.7); neodymium, 143.6 (*vice* 144); praseodymium, 140.5 (*vice* 140); thorium, 232.5 (*vice* 232); zirconium, 90.7 (*vice* 90.6). Argon is provisionally given as 40, and helium as 4.

**The Estimation of Cinchona Alkaloids.**—Lenz (*Zeit. f. Anal. Chem.* xxxviii. 145) describes a method for the determination of the alkaloids of cinchona, depending on the solvent power of chloral hydrate. Ten grammes of finely-powdered bark is allowed to stand for twenty-four hours with 20 grammes of chloral hydrate and 12.5 grammes of water; 150 c.c. of alcohol and 2 grammes of 25-per-cent. hydrochloric acid are then added, and the whole is heated in the water-bath for half an hour under a reflux condenser. The filtered solution is acidified to precipitate resin and filtered again, then rendered alkaline, and the alkaloids extracted with chloroform. To purify them they can be extracted from the chloroform with hydrochloric acid, and the solution rendered alkaline and finally extracted with ether.

**Guaiamar.**—It is well known that the phenols, especially those used in therapeutics, form compounds with acid and with alcoholic radicles, which have the advantage of the original phenols of freedom from caustic and disagreeable taste. The acid compounds, however, are insoluble in water, and therefore not adapted to rapid absorption. The alcohol compounds are far more soluble and rapidly absorbed, and Eudemann claims to have prepared an ideal compound of this nature in the glycerol ether of guaiacol, which he terms guaiamar (*Nouv. Remèdes*, 1900, 33). It is an ether in which one of the OH groups of glycerin has been displaced, of the constitution



It is a white crystalline powder, melting at 75° C., soluble in alcohol, chloroform, ether, glycerin, and in 20 parts of cold water.

**Development of Oil of Lavender.**—Charabot has published in the *Comptes Rendus* (1900, 256) a second paper on the formation of essential oils. We have already given an abstract of the first—on oil of bergamot. He now deals with lavender oil, the three samples used in his experiments being from flowers grown at an altitude of 1,000 feet in the neighbourhood of Briançonnet, and gathered at intervals of a fortnight (1) from the plants in early bud, (2) from the plants in flower, (3) from the plants with the flowers commencing to dry. They had the following characters:—

	I.	II.	III.
Sp. gr. at 15.5°	0.8849	0.8854	0.8821
Sp. rot. p.	−6° 32'	−6° 48'	−6° 50'
*Acids	0.524	0.472	0.385
*Esters	36.6	40.4	39.75

On saponification of the esters the rotatory power was raised to −7° 45', −8° 35', and −9° 10'. Charabot finds that the percentage of free alcohols diminishes, whilst that of esters increases, in ultimate developments. Thus:—

	I.	II.	III.
Free alcohols	21.0	16.7	18.9
Total alcohols	49.8	48.4	50.25

He concludes that "the oil enriches itself in esters up to the time of complete opening of the flower, after which the amount of ester diminishes," and "the amount of free alcohols and total alcohols diminish in the oil up to the time when the flowers are completely opened, whilst the proportion of esters increases; then, when the flower withers, the oil becomes richer in alcohol, but poorer in esters." We cannot help remarking that these generalisations are somewhat extensive when one examines the very small differences in the figures, and remembers that they were obtained from plants which certainly grew in the same field, but need not therefore yield exactly identical oils.

\* Calculated as acetic acid and linalyl acetate.



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

COMPLIMENTS to the three members of the Council present at the dinner of the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association on the amiability with which they took the whipping evidently prepared for them. "We begin to think it's natur'. To take sass and not be riled," wrote Lowell; and these three gentlemen took theirs lying down. Perhaps the dinner was an exceptionally good one. Anyway, one of the Council's sponsors thanked the mouth-piece of the Association for his outspokenness, and another explained that they had come to Blackburn that night to learn what remedy they ought to apply. And Mr. Lord Gifford gave them sounder advice than he generally offers. That vigorous gentleman seems to be on the right track at last, after devious wanderings. He said it was the traditional contempt of the Pharmaceutical Society for the Pharmacy Act of 1868 which had been "the curse of pharmacy," and which had led to the "inept, ineffective, and incompetent" administration of that Act which still prevailed. Mr. Gifford is on *C. & D.* lines of thought now, and if he will keep on thinking a little longer before he speaks next, he will arrive at the view that the only way of reconciling company-pharmacy with the Pharmacy Act is by insisting on qualified directors.

BUT THIS INACTION of the Pharmaceutical Council is a very serious matter for the trade, and I am glad to see that Mr. Reid, as well as Mr. Gifford, voices the general indignation. The Companies Bill is in cold print before the Legislature. There will be very little domestic legislation this year, and the Government will no doubt make a strong effort to place at least this Act to their credit. THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has given individual pharmacists the opportunity of laying before members of Parliament reasons against the Pharmacy Clause as it stands; but, however largely this opportunity is utilised, the effect of personal activity will surely be neutralised by official apathy. "What is the Pharmaceutical Society doing?" I was asked by an M.P. "Nothing, so far as I know." I was obliged to answer, and the statesman drew his own conclusions. Mr. Ritchie has had a lengthy letter from the President of the Society which perhaps interested him. But if he gathered from it any clear idea of what chemists want, he is an even cleverer man than I have taken him to be. As things stand he will be justified in pushing the clause through, and in replying to any critic that there does not seem to be any strong objection to it among pharmacists; and the result will be that unqualified company-pharmacy, like peace and happiness, religion and piety, will be established among us for all generations.

"MOSES WAS A DOCTOR." So said Dr. Nevins in his interesting sketch of ancient *medicamina* delivered to the Liverpool Pharmaceutical Students. I wonder where he got that from. The Bible does not mention it, nor do I find it recorded in the Jewish legends about their great law-giver collected in Smith's "Dictionary of the Bible." Moses, we are told, was "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians," but that was not the same thing as being a doctor. It strikes me that Dr. Nevins was a little satirical at the expense of his audience. Here, on the one hand, he pointed to the good doctor, and there, on the other, to his antagonists, the wicked magicians, "the *pharmakoi*, as they are called in Greek," to whom entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven is forbidden. But it was rather a free kind of

exegesis to leap from the Egyptian magicians to those of whom St. Paul speaks as practitioners of *pharmakeia*, which in our Bible is translated witchcraft, and in the Revised Version, sorcery, who are among those workers of evil to whom, as Dr. Nevins puts it, entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven is forbidden.

THE HISTORY OF THAT WORD, *pharmakeia*, in Greek is very curious. I confess I am rather out of my depth in discussing it, but I know enough for the purpose of this paragraph. It was undoubtedly the original of our word pharmacy, and at first it had just the same meaning in Greek as that which we attribute to it. Ultimately it came to be a term of shame and disgrace, as its use by St. Paul in his Epistle to the Galatians (v. 20) proves. It covered even more than we understand by witchcraft and sorcery. A French Testament before me (Ostervald's Version) translates the word *empoisonnement*, and no doubt poisoning was closely associated with the charms, philtres, incantations, and enchantments which the professors of sorcery of that day dealt in. And these poisonmongers were the direct descendants of the ancient pharmacists. A late meaning of the word *pharmakos*, given in Liddell and Scott's Lexicon, is "one who is sacrificed or executed as an atonement or purification for others; a scapegoat. And since criminals and worthless fellows were reserved for this fate, *pharmakos* became a term of reproach." There is thus a little world of pharmaceutical history wrapped up in the word *pharmakeia* and its derivatives. The gradual degradation of the term and its restoration to respectability in modern language would be worth tracking by some leisured pharmacist with the necessary classical outfit.

LOYAUTE N'A HONTE; loyalty has no modesty. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society told the students of the School of Pharmacy at their dinner last week that the Society was founded by pharmacists, had been kept up by pharmacists, and had not, he believed, touched a penny of money except that of pharmacists. What, then, has the Society done with the thousands paid in examination-fees by candidates who have never passed? No gilt names on polished blackboards record these benefactions, but it is from such contributions that the Turkey carpets in the Council-room have come.

"ANON."s DIAMONDS.—I should like to take a hand in the diamond experiments proposed by "Anon." of the "high quarter," not so much "for the sake of research," as "Anon." seductively words his invitation, as for the sake of the diamonds. I am afraid my mercenary motives will disqualify me. But does "Anon." mean to say that all he has to offer is the result of his "months of thought"? The merest little atom of a diamond would be more to the fancy of the capitalist than the most original meditation; but when "Anon." has got as far as that he will probably not care so much for a partner.

IN THE BIRMINGHAM SEIDLITZ-POWDERS PROSECUTION I notice the defendant's solicitor objected to the division of the powders by the purchasing inspector, who took four of the blue and four of the white powders out of the box, and left the four seidlitz powders thus selected with the defendant, and of course sent another four to the analyst. It was argued that the whole dozen ought to have been bulked and then divided. The Magistrates' Clerk said if that contention was maintained the law could not be carried out, and the objection was overruled. Perhaps, however, it would have been treated more respectfully if a case reported in the *C. & D.*, February 29, 1896, had been quoted. In that case (and I think there have been other similar ones) the West Bromwich Stipendiary Magistrate dismissed a summons on this very objection in regard to seidlitz powders. Not being a High Court decision, his judgment was not binding, but it could hardly have been ignored. A case was also reported in the *C. & D.* of January 13 last, where a summons was dismissed on the ground that the inspector, who bought six bottles of camphorated oil, had left two of those bottles with the defendant.



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**Editorial Comments.**

**The Case for the Chemist.**

It seems that registered chemists and druggists are to get some breathing-space for their fight against the Government proposals respecting company-pharmacy. Mr. Arthur Balfour has promised that members of the House of Commons will have a few days' notice of the date when the Bill will be read a second time, and he hopes that date may come before Easter. The present condition of business in the House does not look promising for the Bill being reached by that time, and any fear of the second reading being worked through after midnight is effectually checked by Mr. T. P. O'Connor's blocking motion. So far, well. A more serious aspect of affairs is revealed by the correspondence from members of Parliament which we have received, and for some of which we are indebted to subscribers. Unfortu-



nately these views are the Government views to a large extent, and they must be combated by the steady attack of those who do not agree with them, especially when the Committee stage of the Bill is reached. We therefore take the more antagonistic of the statements by M.P.'s and show how they may be answered. The need for steady attack is indicated by a member of the last Government, who, writing to a constituent, says:—

I shall certainly give my best attention to the points referred to in your letter, but I would suggest that *when the Bill reaches the Committee stage*—some considerable time hence—you should again remind me of your wishes.

This may be regarded as a hint not to bother members too frequently, but there should certainly be no hesitation in writing to them when the Bill gets into Committee.

A Metropolitan member, writing on February 24 to one of our subscribers, says:—

In reply to your letter in reference to the Companies Bill, I think you are unnecessarily alarmed, as it will only continue the present practice. But I will give the question my best consideration.

This opinion is typical of the real danger to the case for the chemists. Some parliamentarians appear to be unaware that "the present practice" is directly contrary to the intentions of the Legislature in the Pharmacy Acts. Confining our remarks to the 1868 Act, which may be taken to represent the principles of the others, we note that this enactment stipulates that no person shall assume the title "chemist and druggist" who is not registered under the Act, nor keep open shop for the sale of poisons. The decision of the House of Lords that "person" does not mean a company has enabled persons, otherwise unqualified and unregistered, to incorporate themselves under company law, and thereupon call themselves chemists and druggists and keep open shop for the sale of poisons. Registered chemists and druggists, as respecters of the law, consider the legalisation of what this M.P. calls "the present practice" to be detrimental to the public interests, as well as unfair to respecters of the law. In the next letter our suggestion for a qualified directorate is directly challenged. We print this with reference marks in brackets.

[1] I am altogether in sympathy with your note, and think that those gentlemen who have passed the needful examinations should certainly be protected in their legal titles, and should not be interfered with by unqualified persons—whether under the guise of a company or in any other way—posing as pharmaceutical chemists.

[2] The Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has, however, discovered a mare's nest. I have probably had more experience of limited-liability companies than he, and I cannot at the moment recall to my recollection any one in which directors manage the business. The directors of an hotel, for instance, do not manage it, but they appoint and supervise a manager who does. The directors of a railway company (I am a director of four) are in a similar position, and so also as regards shipping companies. There are occasionally "managing directors," but although the ordinary director may and does supervise the management, and may appoint or dismiss managers, he is not by any means in the position which is suggested by the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

[3] In all ordinary companies the employes are the real managers, although in the end the responsibility of course comes home to the directors who appoint and keep them in office.

[4] The speech of the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords on August 3, 1899, shows that he perfectly understands the position from your point of view, and that you have nothing to fear in his hands, but, on the contrary, that he would be very willing to alter Clause 2 if it were capable of bearing the construction which is put upon it by the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

The first paragraph of this letter is satisfactory. This matter of titles is one which appeals to fair-minded men, who otherwise have difficulty in perceiving how harm is done by companies engaging in an occupation from which the

law expressly excludes those who have not acquired certain personal qualifications, especially as companies say they employ such persons. A title is peculiarly a personal matter; there is no precedent for permitting any title to be used by those who have not earned it, and the majority of people recognise the justice of this rule. The second paragraph of the letter reveals the insufficiency of the writer's knowledge of the difference between pharmacy and ordinary trading. Hotels and railways have not so far been regarded by Parliament as businesses which require the qualifications for management to be stipulated by enactment, as is the case with pharmacy. The Pharmacy Act is stringent as to the qualification of the individual owner, and if he permits an assistant to perform his duties, the qualification of the assistant must be the same. The owner is the man who supervises the management, and appoints and dismisses the manager or assistant, and we maintain that the director is his nearest equivalent in company-pharmacy; therefore, the director should have the qualification required by the Pharmacy Act. There is no novelty in the suggestion, so far as pharmacy is concerned; it may seem novel to those who regard directorship as a function of general supervision, but such forget that pharmacy is a special occupation to which the law says ordinary conditions shall not apply.\* The third paragraph of the letter points to the logical conclusion of the writer's reasoning, and the great danger of the proposed legislation, which was so forcibly expressed by an S.S.C. last week, when he said that the legalisation of a qualified assistant to an unqualified company owner must inevitably lead to similar legalisation for any unqualified owner. The fourth paragraph of the letter implies a trust in the Lord Chancellor which the drug-trade has every reason to doubt. In this matter we have learnt that the hands are the hands of Esau but the voice the voice of Jacob. The next letter is more sympathetic, but still lacks appreciation of the real interests involved. It is as follows:—

I delayed answering your letter till I could look up the existing law, and see how the Bill affects it. This I have now done. I will carefully watch the clause when it comes into Committee. I do not think the Editor quite accurately states the effect of the clause in the Bill. In some respects it improves the position of registered chemists, for *now* any company may sell drugs provided the sale is by a qualified person, but there is no provision as to the name of this person appearing, or that that person shall have the actual management of the business. The Bill does not increase the power of companies; but, on the contrary, limits it by saying that the business must be "*bona fide* conducted" by a licensed person whose name "is conspicuously posted in the shop or other place in which the business is carried on"—which, of course, means that this must be done in *each* shop—and all provisions as to the seller being a licensed person remain untouched; so that, to a certain extent, the position of licensed persons is improved, their services being made more necessary.

I rather gather that you would like to see the law altered by prohibiting companies from selling drugs, &c., and I think this would be a very good thing if it could be accomplished, but the companies would evade the law by setting up the licensed chemist in business on their premises, and supplying him with the capital on condition that all the profits came to them except a sum equivalent to a salary, and no law could stop this, and the position of the licensed chemist under such circumstances would be worse than it now is.

But, as I have said, I will watch the clause and see what can be done.

This honourable member's reading of the clause is more optimistic than the language warrants. If the Bill were to

\* Since this was written Mr. James Lowther has in the House of Commons, and on another matter altogether, supported the view that directors are the equivalents of principals in private concerns. Referring to the army contract abuses, he said: "I also want the Christian names and surnames of the contractors and the names of the directors in the case of companies, and the names of every member of a firm, so as not to allow any person, to escape." This applied to pharmacy with the qualification is also what we want.—Ed.

compel every company to put up the name of each manager of a shop much would be gained, but all that it requires is one manager or assistant. That, we say, is an inadequate provision. An assistant certainly should not be authorised by Parliament to hold such a responsible position. No one with less influence than the directors should manage a pharmacy company's business.

It is apparent that the process of educating members of Parliament is just beginning. The opportunity is excellent, but it is also the opportunity which chemists have been waiting for during the past twenty years to get a remedy for the flaw in the Pharmacy Act. In the process of education the opportunity may be lost—indeed, we know that the Government have indicated that all that they will give pharmacy is Clause 2 or nothing. Happily, the Companies Bill is in possession of the House of Commons, and we should not accept the alternative until every possible means of getting the clause amended has been exhausted.

## Pharmacy Legislation in New York.

In this country a single measure promulgated for the benefit of pharmacy is sufficient to start and sustain a condition of riotous oratory for years. Our cousins across the water are differently constituted, for in New York alone there is a perennial flow of legislation bearing directly upon pharmacy. We mentioned not long ago the All-State Pharmacy Bill by which the three laws and boards of pharmacy in New York are to be combined, but it is so adversely criticised that faint hopes are entertained of its becoming law. Next in order of interest come the Bills (there are three) dealing with shorter hours for drug-clerks. The Bill introduced by Assemblyman Henry, the provisions of which were explained in our issue of February 3, page 219, receives the support of assistants and masters, and is likely to be accepted. It is at present in the hands of the Public Health Committee, but the rival Bill, prepared by the Druggists' League, has been introduced by Assemblyman Maher. On February 6 a hearing of both Bills was taken, at which there was a lively exchange of courtesies between the opposing factions. Mr. Morris Zitlin, we learn, gave evidence of having to "wash de windows, scrub de floor, sell de soda-water, and make de brescriptions," and related how he lost his job because he went into a public park to get some fresh air after 12 o'clock midnight. Thereupon Mr. Muir, the delegate from the King's County Pharmaceutical Society, wanted to know if Zitlin was a registered pharmacist when he was washing the windows and compounding prescriptions. Zitlin said he was not, and Mr. Muir then told him he was violating the law. Assemblyman Maher intervened, and after some further criticism by Mr. Muir on the Maher Bill, the Assemblyman threatened to "lick" Mr. Muir, and the disturbance became so great that the hearing was adjourned. So the matter stands at present. A poison-bottle Bill vetoed by the New York Governor last year, because it would have compelled the use of a bottle already patented, has been re-introduced with the objectionable features removed. The object of the Bill is to provide that poisons be sold in a bottle distinguishable by touch from those used for harmless things. A Bill to prohibit the sale of carbolic acid, excepting by a physician's prescription, has also been introduced into the Legislature. This is looked upon as an unnecessary and impracticable restriction, although reasonable restrictions with regard to the sale of this poison would be welcomed. Still another measure is proposed to make pharmacists more righteous. This comes from a Brooklyn physician who proposes to make pharmaceutical substitution illegal and

punishable by fine. The natural inference is that substitution is legal in New York, or that substituters get round the law in some way, but the truth may be that the doctor is in need of a little notoriety. The last heard of him was that he had gone to Albany to get a member to introduce the Bill into the Legislature there. We may not hear of him again. A Bill to legalise the sale of antitoxin in Greater New York by the Board of Health is another item of legislation. By it the Board wants powers, in case the stock of lymph or virus produced shall exceed the amount required, to sell the excess at public auction, but the aggregate net amount of such sales shall not exceed \$5,000 in any one year. The last straw is provided by Senator Sullivan, who has a Bill which provides that "no person or corporation shall sell or offer for sale any patent or proprietary medicine, or tonic, snuff, tobacco, or headache, catarrh, or hay-fever remedy containing cocaine." Senator Sullivan is the sort of man we want at St. Stephen's just now. He is the first legislator on pharmaceutical matters that we know of who has perceived the distinction between person and corporation and given exact expression to it in plain legislative language. That is one thing that our American contemporaries may be thankful for; indeed, it is so good a thing that it almost counterweighs the epidemic of legislation which threatens their equanimity if not their existence. We congratulate them on the magnificent calm with which they bear the burden.

## A Century of Chemistry.

LADENBURG is a name to conjure with in this country. His long association with pharmaceutical chemistry and his brilliant work on the synthesis of alkaloids have secured for him all the honours which British pharmacy can bestow upon him, and more recently his higher scientific work has made his name familiar to pure chemists. It is noteworthy that some of the most brilliant thinkers and diligent workers in chemistry also take high rank as teachers. Professor Ladenburg is a type of this limited circle, and one of the best examples of his teaching power is embodied in a series of lectures which he delivered in the eighties, and which were gathered together in book-form as "an objective picture of the chemical theories of the last hundred years." Now, thirty years after the appearance of the book, we have an admirable English version of it from the pen of Dr. Leonard Dobbin, of Edinburgh, who has worked from the second edition of the book with the advantage of additions and corrections by Professor Ladenburg, and the Alembic Club, which has done so good service to Science by printing chemical monographs of historic interest has undertaken the publication of this interesting book. The first thing that strikes the reader of Ladenburg's history is the unbiassed manner in which he treats disputed matters. In the first few chapters we get into touch with one of the keenest controversies of the century—viz., the part played by each of the discoverers of oxygen or other element, and the amount of credit which has to be accorded to formulators of the theories upon which the new chemistry of a hundred years ago was built. Looking back to that time one is struck by the fact that British, French, and Scandinavian chemists were the leaders, few Teutons having much to do with chemical reformation. It is an advantage, therefore, to have a German professor's views on the controversial period, and, as we have said, we have it here without bias. This is characteristic of the whole book. Another feature of it has struck us—namely, that the author has succeeded in reproducing the thought of the times in such a way that the reader has no difficulty in following the evolution from the darkness to



light which has marked every great chemical discovery. And this is really the direction in which histories of chemistry are educational works as well as good reading. We commend this kind of reading to students of chemistry of all ages, especially because it adds that element of interest which chemistry text-books lack as a rule. There are sixteen lectures in the book (which extends to nearly 400 pages), among the last subjects treated being synthetic perfumes and the new nomenclature. Dr. Dobbin's writing is so good that the lectures do not read like a translation at all, and he has added copious references to the original literature which constitute a valuable feature of the book, and will materially assist students of any particular periods or of any special subjects in obtaining fuller details concerning these than could be given in the text. There are also indexes of authors' names, and of subjects. The appearance of the book is opportune, seeing that we are at the close of the century which it covers, and which is distinguished by nothing more remarkably than by the progress of chemistry and its application to industrial process.

#### THE FEDERATION AND COMPANIES.

Mr. Jas. Cocks, the Secretary of the Federation of Chemists' Associations, informs us that the second resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the Federation is not as we printed it last week on pages 329 and 361. Both these versions of the resolution were supplied to us at different times by Mr. Cocks, but he now informs us that the Executive's second resolution amounts practically to our own amendments of the Clause 2 calling for the protection of titles, the appointment of a qualified directorate, and of a qualified manager for each company-shop. Mr. Cocks is now making the matter perfectly clear to the secretaries of local associations and the local secretaries of the Pharmaceutical Society in a circular which is being issued by the Federation. While regretting that a better system of reporting the Executive meetings is not adopted, we are glad to note that the total prohibition proposal is now put forward along with so definite and more reasonable a scheme for amending the Government's proposal.

#### THE EFFECT OF OUR CIRCULAR.

In an earlier note we deal fully with the views of members of Parliament who are opposed to our contention that Clause 2 of the Companies Acts Amendment Bill is an inadequate provision in respect to company-pharmacy. Judging from the letters which we have received, these are a distinct minority, and we are gratified to note that members representing all parts of the country have had their attention called to the company-pharmacy clause by means of the circular inserted in our issue of February 17. It is one of the most pleasing features of the present crisis that the inaction of the Pharmaceutical Society has not prevented the rank-and-file of the trade from stating the case to their members, and, although one or two members of Parliament have expressed themselves confused by the great variety of views expressed to them about the matter, we do not doubt that before the Bill proceeds much further greater uniformity of opinion will prevail.

#### THE COMPANIES' VIEW.

On another page we reprint the text of a circular which has been sent to members of Parliament by the Association of Drug Companies, over which Mr. Jesse Boot presides. The circular reads more like a Stores advertisement than an appeal to the British Parliament, but perhaps that is excusable under the circumstances. The attack by the companies' representatives on chemists is really delightful. They seem entirely to forget that the body that they are

appealing to created registered chemists and druggists, and placed them above all other shop trades by requiring them to have certain qualifications before they embarked in business on their own account. The real interest of the circular, however, lies in the fact that the companies have ranged themselves alongside the Pharmaceutical Council by sitting on the fence. They not only beg the question, but appeal in a roundabout way to members of Parliament to vote against Clause 2. Apparently they are wise enough to see that it represents the minimum of reform, and they would rather have that than a clause amended as chemists would like it to be. The companies object very strongly to the name of the manager being shown upon the shop or other place in which the business is conducted, but the President of the Board of Trade has given them no hope of amendment on this point.

#### HOW THE DIRECTORATE PROPOSAL APPLIES.

The seven signatories to the Drug Companies' Association afford excellent support to our suggestion that the directors of drug companies should be registered chemists and druggists. Every one of these gentlemen is a managing director of his company, and out of the seven two only are registered chemists and druggists. If our proposal were adopted, Mr. William Inman, Mr. W. B. Mason, Mr. William Day, Mr. Jesse Boot, and Mr. James R. Brough would be disqualified to act as managing directors of the companies which are now *bona fide* conducted by them. In all but one of these instances the businesses have been started by these gentlemen, who as individuals could not so act without breaking the law. What astonishes us more than anything is that representative pharmacists abuse us for creating the qualified-directorate idea; if they had looked at all the facts of the case and taken the trouble to inquire how the proposal or a modification of it would apply, by this time there would have been but one policy for the registered chemists—viz., protection of titles and a qualified directorate. Perhaps it might be necessary to whittle the latter part down to qualified managing director, but even that would be infinitely better than a qualified assistant as the *bona-fide* conductor of the business.

#### STAMPING GLASS MEASURES.

The relations of the City of London Corporation and the London County Council have been, as everybody in London knows, a little less than cordial ever since the latter body was created. The County Council is understood to have designs on the Guildhall, while the Corporation does not see the necessity of anything beyond a vestry outside the City walls. War between these two factions has been inevitable for years, but who expected it would have broken out over graduated glass measures? The City says the County Council cuts the price of measure-stamping so that the City gets little of this business to do. On page 364 we report the interview which the City representatives have had with Mr. Ritchie about the matter. He gave the deputation cold comfort, and told them if the County Council's conduct was illegal they had their remedy. We should have thought it would have paid the City better to cut the County Council's cut. At present the Weights and Measures Department costs the Council 14,418*l.* a year, and it gets a little over a third of that returned in "fees, fines, &c."—viz. 5,149*l.* The net cost is, say, 9,270*l.* The City, on the other hand, pays its Weights and Measures Department 2,156*l.*, and gets back 1,148*l.* in fees (we are so virtuous in the City that there appears to be no fines). What would another 1,000*l.* be to the Corporation of the City of London? A mere dinner we should imagine. If the Corporation chose to sacrifice that dinner it might make the stamping business still less profitable to the L.C.C.

# British Pharmaceutical Conference.

MEETING IN LONDON.

THE following is a list of those who have expressed their willingness to serve on the General Committee. The Secretary (Mr. W. Warren, 24 Russell Street, Covent Garden, W.C.) will be glad to receive the names of any others who are willing to be placed on this committee. We also append a first list of subscriptions.

Allen, C. B.	Humphrey, John
Allen, E. R.	Hyslop, J. C.
Andrews, E. A.	Idris, T. H. W.
Andrews, F.	Jacks, D. R.
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Atkinson, Leo.	Lescher, F. H.
Attfield, Dr. J.	MacEwan, Peter
Baker, Parson C.	Marsh, E. N.
Barnett, J. A.	Martindale, W.
Bascombe, F.	Mathews, J. H.
Bate, H.	Miles, C.
Bourdas, Isai'ah	Moore, J. E. Langford
Bowen, J. W.	Moss, Harold
Bremridge, Elias	Moss, John
Bremridge, Richd	Naylor, W. A. H.
Butler, H. J.	Nicholls, Theo.
Butt, E. N.	Parker, R. H.
Carteighe, Michael	Phillips, A. J.
Collier, H.	Philp, W. J. Ignatius
Cooper, A.	Preston, J. Classon
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Cracknell, H.	Ransom, F.
Dyson, W. B.	Robbins, John
Ekings, A. E.	Robinson, R. A.
Fisk, F. M.	Robinson, W. P.
Fletcher, F. W.	Savory, A. L.
Gerrard, A. W.	Shacklock, J. H.
Glyn-Jones, W. S.	Smith, F. A. Upsler
Goldby, F.	Taplin, J. W.
Goldfinch, G.	Taylor, G. S.
Greenish, Professor	Turner, J. Scriven
Gulliver, W.	Tyrer, Thomas
Hanbury, C.	Umney, C.
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Harrington, J. F.	Ward, J. S.
Hill, E. W.	Warren, W.
Hills, Walter	White, E.
Holding, J.	Wiggins, H.
Holmes, E. M.	Wigginton, A.
Howard, D. Lloyd	Worsley, A. G.
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Allen, Stafford & Sons ...	5	5	0	Eastes, E. J. ...	1	1	0
Andrew, E. A. ...	1	1	0	Evans, Lescher &			
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Attfield, Dr. J. ...	2	2	0	Flux, Thompson &			
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Baker, Parson C. ...	0	10	6	Gerrard, A. W. ...	2	2	0
Barnett, J. A. ...	1	1	0	Glyn-Jones, W. S. ...	1	1	0
Barron, Harveys &				Goldby, F. ...	1	1	0
Co. ...	5	5	0	Goldfinch, G. ...	2	2	0
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Bowen, J. W. ...	2	2	0	Gulliver, W. ...	1	1	0
Bremridge, Elias ...	2	2	0	Hanson, A. W. ...	2	2	0
Bremridge, Richard	2	2	0	Harker, Stag &			
Burroughs, Wellcome				Morgan ...	5	5	0
& Co. ...	5	5	0	Harrington, J. F. ...	2	2	0
Butt, E. N. ...	2	2	0	Harvey, W. ...	1	1	0
Camval (Limited) ...	2	2	0	Hearon, Squire &			
Carteighe, Michael ...	2	2	0	Francis ...	5	5	0
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GIST, proprietors of	5	5	0	Hill, E. W. ...	0	10	6
Clark, J. ...	1	1	0	Hills, Walter ...	2	2	0
Collier, H. ...	1	1	0	Hodgkinson, Clarke &			
Cooper, A. ...	2	2	0	Ward ...	5	5	0
Cooper, A. J. B. ...	2	2	0	Hodgkinson, Prestons			
Cracknell, H. ...	2	2	0	& King ...	5	5	0
Dampney, R. ...	1	1	0	Holding, John ...	1	1	0
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Howard, D. L., & Sons	5	5	0	Robbins, John ...	2	2	0
Howell, M. ...	2	2	0	Robinson, R. A. ...	2	2	0
Howse, E. T. ...	0	5	0	Robinson, W. P. ...	1	1	0
Humphrey, John ...	1	1	0	Rogers, Frank A. ...	1	1	0
Hyne, H. ...	0	10	6	Savory, A. L. ...	2	2	0
Hyslop, J. C. ...	0	10	6	Shelley, John ...	1	1	0
Idris & Co. ...	5	5	0	Shacklock, J. H. ...	1	1	0
Idris, T. H. W. ...	2	2	0	Stickland, H. & Co. ...	2	2	0
Jacks, D. Russell ...	1	1	0	Smith, F. A. Upsler	0	10	6
Kirk, Snowdon ...	2	2	0	Tanner, A. E. ...	1	1	0
Knight, G. J. ...	1	1	0	Taplin, J. W. ...	1	1	0
Lucas, E. W. ...	1	1	0	Taylor, G. S. ...	1	1	0
MacEwan, Peter ...	2	2	0	Tennant, A. ...	0	10	6
Marsh, E. N. ...	1	1	0	Thomas, R. ...	0	10	6
Martindale, W. ...	2	2	0	Thompson, John ...	2	2	0
Mather, J. H. ...	1	1	0	Turner, J. Scriven ...	1	1	0
Mathews, J. & H. ...	5	5	0	Tyrer, Thos. & Co. ...	5	5	0
Maw, Son & Thomp-				Umney, J. C. ...	2	2	0
son ...	5	5	0	Warren, W. ...	2	2	0
Miles, C. ...	1	1	0	Warriek, F. W. ...	2	2	0
Millard, E. J. ...	1	1	0	Wellcome, H. S. ...	2	2	0
Moore, E. Langford	2	2	0	Weston, S. J. ...	2	2	0
Morson, T., & Son ...	5	5	0	White, E. ...	1	1	0
Moss, Harold ...	2	2	0	Wiggins, H. ...	2	2	0
Moss, John ...	2	2	0	Wigginton, A. ...	1	1	0
Naylor, W. A. H. ...	1	1	0	Wood, Alex. ...	1	1	0
Nicholls, Theo. ...	1	1	0	Worsley, A. G. ...	1	1	0
Parker, R. H. ...	1	1	0	Wretts, J. R. ...	1	1	0
Parke, Davis & Co. ...	5	5	0	Wright, Layman &			
Phillips, A. J. ...	2	2	0	Umney ...	5	5	0
Philp, W. J. Ignatius	1	1	0	Young, R. Fisher ...	2	2	0
Pickard, W. ...	0	10	6				

Gentlemen who have not subscribed, but wish to do so, may send to Mr. Warren, or to the Treasurer, Mr. J. H. Mathews, 68 Queen's Gardens, Hyde Park, W.

## Recent Wills.

FRESSON.—The will of Mr. L. H. Fresson, chemist, Stevenage, who died on October 4, 1899, has been proved by his sons, Mr. F. H. Fresson, chemist, Stevenage, and Mr. E. F. Fresson, 45 Stafford Street, Longton, by whom the testator's estate was sworn at 933*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*

GERAUT.—The will of the late Mr. Eugene Geraut, of Eugene Gerant & Co., soda-water machine and syphon manufacturers, &c., Farrington Road, E.C., has been proved, with two codicils, by Mr. Hy. Thos. Butler, 8 Northumberland Road, Highbury, the surviving executor of the testator, whose estate was entered at 10,705*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*

HINDE.—The late Mr. Albert Henry Hinde, chemist and druggist, Nelson Street, Lowestoft, having died in August, 1899, intestate, letters of administration to his estate have been granted to his widow, Mrs. Clara Mary Hinde, by whom the value thereof was sworn at 1,257*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, the net personality being 1,188*l.* 11*s.*

POWELL.—Probate of the will of the late Mr. William Powell, of 4 Queen Square, Leeds, and of The Elms, Pocklington wholesale chemist, has been granted to the executors, Mr. William Powell Bowman, wholesale druggist, of De Grey Lodge, Leeds, and Mr. Frank Boyce, wholesale druggist, of 4 Queen Square, aforesaid (nephews of the deceased), by whom the gross value of the estate has been sworn at 5,896*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, and the net value at 5,477*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* To his housekeeper, Jane Bruce Richardson, testator leaves 500*l.* free of duty. His house, cottage, &c., at Market Weighton, occupied by Mr. T. L. Cordingley, he devises to his nephew, Mr. W. P. Bowman; his land at Pocklington to his brother, Mr. James Powell; his household furniture in Queen Square to his nephew, Mr. Bowman; and his furniture and residence at Pocklington to his nephew, Mr. W. Powell. Two-thirds of the residue of his real and personal estate go to his nephew, William Powell Bowman, and the remaining third to his nephew, Frank Boyce, charged, however, with the following legacies:—200*l.* to James Silburn, of Teresa Cottage, Pocklington; the sum of 1,000*l.* to be equally divided among the surviving children of his late partner, Henry Backhouse; 2,000*l.* to each of his nephews, Henry Powell and Samuel Powell; 1,000*l.* each to his nieces Sophia Powell (formerly Sophia Boyce) and Kate Fairweather (formerly Kate Boyce); 2,000*l.* to his niece Florence Goodall Powell; and 5,000*l.* to his niece Annie Boyce. The testator directs that his said nephews shall be allowed ten years in which to pay the legacies named to his nephews and nieces.



## Legal Reports.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

#### CAMPHORATED OIL.

At Swadlincote County Sessions on February 20, Samuel Kirby, Overseal, was fined 2s. 6d. and 18s. 6d. costs, for selling camphorated oil which contained 35 per cent. of mineral oil.

At Worksop Police Court on February 21, Richard Chambers was charged with selling camphorated oil which was not of the proper quality. Inspector Crabtree stated that he had purchased the whole of the camphorated oil defendant had in stock, and he thought defendant was not as responsible as the wholesale house that supplied the oil. Defendant's wife stated that the traveller for the firm from which the oil was purchased had visited her on his ordinary journey a few days ago, when he stated that the oil supplied was not up to the requisite strength. The Bench fined the defendant 1l., and expressed the hope that in the interests of the public defendant would sue the wholesale firm in the County Court.

At the Lambeth Police Court on February 22, Thomas Tyrrell, described as a chemist but not on the register, Southampton Street, Camberwell, was summoned for selling camphorated oil which, according to Dr. Frank Teed, Public Analyst, contained 80 per cent. of mineral oil. Dr. Teed pointed out that the cost of mineral oil was about 7d. per gal., against about 3s. 6d. for olive oil. In cross-examination, witness stated that the proportion of camphor in the sample was about 2 per cent. below the standard. He knew of no case in which mineral oil had been used as a liniment, and doubted whether it would be as effective as olive oil. For the defence it was stated that defendant kept two kinds of camphorated oil: one for retailing and the other for use in rheumatic liniments. They both stood on the same shelf, and the defendant, who was old and nearsighted, served the inspector from the wrong bottle. He had been in business for fifty years and had never been summoned before. In answer to a question by the Magistrate (Mr. Hopkins), it was stated that the defendant's shop was a small one. Mr. Hopkins said it seemed as bad a case as one could possibly come across, and imposed a penalty of 20l., and 1l. 18s. 6d. costs.

#### SPIRIT OF NITROUS ETHER.

At Canterbury on February 24, Mr. F. H. Neale, chemist and druggist, Herne Bay, was summoned for selling spirit of nitrous ether which the County Analyst (Mr. M. A. Adams) certified to be adulterated. Mr. Potter, for the defence, objected to the form of the analysis sent in by Mr. Adams, and called attention to the fact that, although the sample was bought on January 16, the date of the certificate was January 26. He also showed that in the particulars of analysis the proportions of the various constituents were not stated, and he contended that the Act had not been conformed with. He also complained that the samples of so volatile a substance had been placed in corked bottles when taken for analysis, and the Bench dismissed the case on these objections.

#### BORIC ACID IN CREAM.

At Brentford Police Court on February 26, G. E. Watkins Hounslow, was summoned for selling cream mixed with 93 per cent. of boric acid; and the West Surrey Central Dairy Company were summoned for giving a false label on the bottle of cream, and for allowing boric acid in the cream. The words on the jar were:—

We guarantee our cream to be absolutely pure and free from any thickening or sweetening matter often added to cream to mask its inferior quality.—(Signed) WEST SURREY CENTRAL DAIRY COMPANY.

Mr. E. Bevan, analyst, said borax was not a constituent of cream, and therefore should not be in it. It was the commonest form of preservative in use, and was used largely in all classes of food, and it was easy to detect its flavour if used in excess. It was not at all necessary in cream. He considered cream could be kept fresh by a refrigerator.

Dr. Stevenson, the Home Office expert, said it was highly necessary in the cases of weak or delicate persons that the cream should be pure. He did not agree with well-known writers that boric acid did not affect health. He had found cases of borax-poisoning.

Drs. L. B. Diplock and W. E. Kirby, of Chiswick, also spoke of the deleterious effects of boric acid; and Mr. Bodkin, for the defence, appealed to the Bench to let the case stand adjourned pending the report of the Commission and Departmental Committee as to what extent preservatives should be used in foodstuffs. He could not assent to discontinue the use of boric acid, but he would assent to a label being on the jars disclosing the nature of the compound, so that the public would not be prejudiced.

This undertaking was accepted by the Bench, and the hearing was adjourned *sine die*.

#### OLIVE OIL.

At Ramsgate County Sessions on February 21, Ernest Scruby, Minister, was summoned for selling olive oil which Mr. M. A. Adams, the County Analyst, certified was entirely cotton-seed oil. Defendant pleaded that flask-oil, and not olive oil, was asked for, and was fined 4l., including costs.

### Spirits Act.

#### THE SALE OF METHYLATED SPIRIT.

At Shrewsbury, on February 26, George Henry Shuker, ironmonger, Shrewsbury, was charged with selling 5 gals. of methylated spirit without a licence; and Messrs. Boots (Limited) were charged with selling 5 gals. of methylated spirit without having a wholesale licence.

William Henry Bradley deposed to buying 5 gals. of methylated spirit from Shuker's shop for 17s. 6d.; and William Blisset George, manager of Messrs. Boots' Shrewsbury shop, deposed that Shuker asked him to quote a price for 5 gals. of methylated spirit. Although witness knew that his firm was licensed for the sale of spirit in the ordinary way, it did not strike him that it applied only to retail quantities. He quoted a price as desired, and subsequently sold 5 gals. of spirit to Shuker for 13s. 9d. Mr. Shuker here stated that Messrs. Boots were paid 15s. for the spirit. Fred West, Inland Revenue officer, said Mr. Shuker explained that he merely acted as Mr. Bradley's agent in the transaction, and charged the same price as he paid Messrs. Boots. The shopman in Mr. Shuker's employ, who procured the spirit from Mr. Bradley, said he was not aware that any licence was necessary. He sent to Boots and got a quotation to supply the quantity asked for at 15s. net cash. Mr. Crawford Clarke, who appeared for Messrs. Boots, pleaded guilty, and, in cross-examining the Inland Revenue officer, got him to admit that he believed the offence was the result of a technical omission on the part of the manager. Mr. Kerr, for the prosecution, stated that, in addition to a fine of 50l., Messrs. Boots were liable to have the spirit supplied forfeited; but inasmuch as they were already licensed to sell in certain quantities, a heavy fine was not asked for, and the defendants were each fined 5l., and costs.

### Medical Acts.

#### AN UNLAWFUL DOCTOR.

At Marylebone Police Court on February 26, Harry Edwin Collis was charged with wilfully and falsely pretending to be a doctor of medicine, and unlawfully using the titles doctor and M.D. The case was before the Court last week (*C. & D.*, February 24, page 315), when the person summoned, George Washington Evans, was said to have been dead since November last. On the door, the palings, and the letter-box of the premises at Cambridge Street, Hyde Park, where defendant lived, were brass plates bearing the name "Dr. Washington Evans." Knowing that this gentleman had been struck off the register in 1885, the Medical Council's solicitors sent a letter to "Dr. Washington Evans, 1A Cambridge Street," in reply to which they received a letter signed in that name, and offering terms for treatment. This letter the defendant subsequently admitted was written by himself. Since the summons had been issued the brass plates referred to had been removed. For the defence, it

was stated that after the death of Dr. Evans his widow asked defendant to help her to carry on the business for a short time, and he did so entirely for her benefit. The letter referred to was an exact copy of one written by Dr. Evans before his death. The business had now been put an end to. A fine of 40s., with 5l. 5s. costs, was imposed.

#### DR. ALABONE'S DEGREES.

At the North London Police Court, on February 28, Mr. Paul Taylor had before him a summons-charge brought against Edwin William Alabone, of Lynton House, Highbury Quadrant, N., by Jonathan Michael Brown, clerk to a firm of solicitors acting for the General Medical Council, charging him with wilfully and falsely pretending to be a doctor of medicine. The action was taken under section 40 of the Medical Act, 1858, which makes it an offence to "use the name or title of a physician, doctor of medicine, licentiate in medicine and surgery, bachelor of medicine, surgeon, general practitioner or apothecary, or any name, title, addition, or description implying registration under the Act, or that the user is recognised by law as a physician, or surgeon, or licentiate in medicine and surgery, or a practitioner in medicine, or an apothecary."

Mr. Lushington, who appeared for the prosecutors, explained that the defendant described himself as being "Edwin W. Alabone, M.D. Bellevue College, M.D. Phil., U.S.A., D.Sc., F.R.M.S., ex-M.R.C.S. Eng." In the case of "Andrews and Styart" it had been held that when a man described himself as "M.D." the M.D. having been obtained from the University of Philadelphia after paying a sum of money, and without any previous examination, he was guilty of an offence under this Act. The defendant used the distinctions in his book, "The Cure of Consumption." It was a fact that the degrees of the Bellevue College, New York, and the Jefferson Medical School, Philadelphia, were registrable in this country, and the General Medical Council contended that the defendant's action was likely to deceive the public into the belief that he was registered under the Medical Act. He had been a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, but in 1883 the college withdrew his diploma, and the General Medical Council erased his name from the Register.

Mr. Paul Taylor: From such a decision is there any appeal to the courts of law?

Mr. Lushington said that the decision of the Council was final.

Mr. Paul Taylor said his reading of the Act was that it was intended to prevent the public being imposed upon by ignorant practitioners.

Mr. Lushington said that he thought the Act went further. It sought to prevent the use of false descriptions. Anyone seeing the number of distinctions after Mr. Alabone's name would think that he was a man of very great learning.

Mr. Taylor: You say that the defendant has been a member of the Royal College of Surgeons.

The complainant gave formal evidence in support of the case.

Mr. Young then introduced the case for the defence, pointing out that in the case quoted the defendant described himself as "Andrews, M.D.," which clearly led people to believe that he was an M.D. of a university granting degrees in this country. Dr. Alabone, however, was careful to state the origin of his degrees, so that no one could be deceived. Moreover, Dr. Alabone was a man of education, and had been an M.R.C.S. Since the removal of his name from the register he had been most careful to state that he was an ex-member of the college and that all his other medical degrees were American. Since 1883 Dr. Alabone had used these titles undisturbed, and when he was involved in an action in the High Court in 1895 the judge directed the official solicitor to inquire into Dr. Alabone's practice, and that official reported entirely in his favour.

Mr. James Mortimer, editor of the *Anglo-Saxon*, said that he was well acquainted with the city of Philadelphia, and a diploma produced was genuine.

Defendant then gave evidence on his own behalf, explaining that it was after an examination and the writing of a thesis on consumption that he obtained the M.D. of Philadelphia. So in the case of the Bellevue College. The D.Sc. degree

was obtained from Chicago. He was frequently called in in consultation with other doctors who were registered. The last case was in November when he saw the Duke of Marlborough. In cross-examination the witness said that the Bellevue College, to which he belonged, was not the college of that name in New York. It was in another part of America. He paid 5l. 5s. for the registration fee for the degree, and 10l. 10s. was charged by the University of Philadelphia.

Mr. Paul Taylor, in giving his decision, said that the suggestion of the prosecution appeared to be that because the defendant said that he was an M.D. of Bellevue College and an M.D. of Philadelphia, it implied that he was an M.D. of the Bellevue College, New York, and of the Jefferson Medical School, Philadelphia, both of which degrees entitled the holder to registration in England. This assumption to his mind was wrong, as if the defendant held the degrees the prosecution said he pretended to hold, he would be entitled to put M.D. at the end of his name and not say whence he obtained the degree. But the defendant did not do that. He gave the origin of his degrees, and furthermore said that he was an ex-member of the College of Surgeons. That being so, he found as a fact that he (defendant) described himself accurately without any intention whatever of misleading the public.

The summons was dismissed with 10l. 10s. costs, and Mr. Taylor refused to state a case for the opinion of a superior court.

#### An Action for Libel.

At Bristol Assizes on February 22, Dr. W. L. Christie sued the printer and publisher of the *Medical Press and Circular* for damages for libel. Plaintiff, who is an M.D. of New Zealand, and F.R.C.S., England, started a private adventure cottage hospital at Bedminster for the training of nurses. A nurse had brought an action against plaintiff in the County Court for inadequate instruction, and it was in connection with that case that the alleged libel was committed. Plaintiff contended that defendant in his paper had commented on the trial in an unfair way, withholding his side of the case, and since the publication of the article there had been a considerable falling-off in the number of pupils. It was urged for the defence that the article was fair comment, but the Judge pointed out that it could not be said to be fair comment if such an article was published before both sides of the case had been given. However, he suggested that it was not a case in which serious damages should be given, but it was a case in which, possibly with the best intentions, the paper had made a mistake. The jury found for the plaintiff for 40s., and the Judge certified for costs.

#### Breach of Anti-cutting Agreement.

A CASE was recently heard before Mr. Justice Mathew, in the Queen's Bench Division, between Kodak (Limited) and Elliott, a dealer in photographic materials, and a customer of the plaintiff company, who, in the interests of their dealer-customers, imposed upon them individually the condition of not retailing Kodak manufactures below list prices. Finding that a particular firm of dealers were underselling their goods, plaintiffs took steps to prevent them obtaining supplies, and to this end they imposed the further condition upon all dealers not to resell wholesale to any other dealer without having previously obtained a written undertaking that the conditions of sale of Kodak (Limited) would be observed. The defendant agreed to these conditions on July 6 last, and goods supplied to him were subsequently traced to a "cutting" firm by whom they were sold retail below list-price. It was sought to recover damages for breach of the conditions of sale, and

Judgment was entered for the plaintiff company for 50l. damages and costs.

#### County Court Cases.

##### BOTTLING-MACHINE TRANSACTION.

At the Ilkeston County Court on February 20, Wm. Fletcher, chemist and druggist, sued Taylor Brothers, exporters, 18



Billiter Street, E.C., for 25*l.*, balance of account due for six bottle-labelling machines supplied to order for export to Australia. It was stated that the defendants first of all had two machines and paid for them. These were sent to Australia, and later on six more machines were ordered and supplied. The defendants applied for the sole agency in Australia for their clients there, and the plaintiff agreed to this condition that twenty-five machines were ordered in the twelve months. The defendants asked to be allowed to spend 25*l.* in advertising. They kept the six machines, but did not order any more, and then claimed that they had spent 25*l.* in advertising. Mr. F. Y. Fletcher, manager to the plaintiff, said the account for the six machines came to 39*l.* 9*s.* The defendants sent 4*l.* 14*s.*, deducting 25*l.* for advertising. Discount was allowed them, and the balance of 25*l.* was due. Judgment was given for the sum claimed, with costs, in fourteen days.

## PROJECTING SHOWCASES.

MESSRS. MACDONALDS (LIMITED), dentists, Macclesfield, were sued on February 21, by F. W. Macdonald, for damage done to a coat by defendants' showcase, which projected 9 inches from the wall. Defendants contended that the Borough Surveyor had sanctioned the erection of the case; but Judge Yate Lee found defendants liable, and gave judgment for 10*s.*

## SETTLED.

At the Liverpool Assizes on February 23, it was announced that the action brought by Mr. J. M. Fells against the Salt Union (Limited) for damages for wrongful dismissal had been settled. The terms were: Judgment for the plaintiff for 500*l.*, in addition to 50*l.* paid into court, together with 186*l.*, also in court, but no costs on either side. Counsel for the Union, furthermore, made a statement to the effect that Mr. Fells, while general manager for the Union, had discharged his duties in an honourable manner, and that his integrity had in no way been questioned by the fact that he was not now in the service of the company.

## DETENTION OF LUGGAGE.

At the Leeds County Court on February 23, Mr. Jules Culmann, described as a chemist, of Headingley, sought to recover 10*l.* 10*s.* from the Great Northern Railway Company for the detention of his luggage. Plaintiff booked for himself and his wife from Leeds Great Northern Station to Stuttgart. At Harwich his trunk, which contained, among other things, valuable bonds, was missing. He went on as far as Rotterdam, where he stayed some days, but was compelled to return, as the trunk did not turn up. Eventually it was sent back to Leeds from Liverpool Street, London, and the company could not explain where it had been. On behalf of the Great Northern Company, it was urged that the company issued a ticket only for their own system, with a coupon which was exchanged at Harwich for another ticket for the Great Eastern lines and boats. It was submitted that the trunk was lost on the Great Eastern system, and the Great Eastern Railway Company, if any, were liable. It was argued, for the plaintiff, that the liability for a through journey was, in law, on the issuing company, and this view was upheld by Judge Greenhow, who said the Great Northern Company were liable, and found for the plaintiff for 5*l.* 5*s.*, with costs on the 10*l.* scale. His Honour also refused an application for leave to appeal, remarking that it was too small a matter for a passenger to be harassed about. The plaintiff had suffered great inconvenience, and must not be called upon to fight a difficult matter on principle. The railway company must get a bigger case.

**MORE PERFUMERY-IMITATIONS.**—On January 24, the representatives of the French perfumers, Ed. Pineau, A. Reynaud, and L. T. Piver & Co., had a judicial search made in several suspected shops in São Paulo, Brazil, where a considerable quantity of perfumeries with counterfeited labels of those houses was seized. Legal action is to be taken against Chrystoffel Stupakoff, Bogart & Co., J. Amarante & Co., Mourier & Co., Camparilli Francisco, and Genaro Amatuso for indemnification, and for the falsification of trade-marks.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

**Rowland, John Llewelyn**, 9 Station Parade, Willesden Green, and 17 Sussex Place, South Kensington, chemist. Dated February 21; filed February 26. Liabilities unsecured, 308*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.*; estimated net assets, 25*l.* Composition of 6*s.* 8*d.* in the pound, payable on or before May 31, 1900. The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Allen & Hanburys (Limited), London ...	64	0	0
Butler & Crispe, London ...	16	0	0
Camwal, London ...	78	0	0
Fisher & Hart, London ...	10	0	0
Phillips, G., & Co., London ...	10	0	0
Wilkinson, J. F., Pendleton ...	17	0	0
Willows & Co., London ...	23	0	0

**Whiteside, Ernest**, The Medical Hall, Church Street, Audley, chemist and druggist. Trustee, Henry W. Figgins, 12 Cheap-side, Hanley, I.A. Dated February 14; filed February 20. Liabilities unsecured, 72*l.*; estimated net assets, 91*l.* Assignment upon trust, &c. Any surplus after payment of creditors in full to be paid to the debtor's wife. The following is scheduled as a creditor:—

	£	s.	d.
Whiteside, T. J., Widnes ...	20	0	0

**G. N. Laslett**, trading as Phillipson & Co., 1 Budge Row, Cannon Street, E.C., and 139 Waterloo Road, Soap-manufacturer.

At the first meeting of creditors the liabilities were stated at 7,639*l.*, and assets 1,514*l.* Defendant's father, who is a creditor to the extent of 5,533*l.*, stated that he was willing to stand aside and allow the whole of the assets to be realised in favour of the trade creditors, which would mean payment at about 5*s.* in the pound. The largest trade creditors, however, would not consent unless 10*s.* in the pound were guaranteed and this the debtor's father ultimately agreed to do, the dividends to be paid within twelve months. The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Adler, —, Buckholz ...	74	0	0
Bellchambers, G., London ...	15	0	0
Bertrand Frères, Grasse ...	28	0	0
Dressler, E., Gablonz ...	88	0	0
Fuchs, W., & Co., Gablonz ...	38	0	0
Gibbs, D. & W. (Limited), London ...	80	0	0
Heinz, A., Schlensingen ...	11	0	0
Johns, Miss M. K., London ...	395	0	0
Johns, Miss C., London ...	61	0	0
Jacobs, — (Exors. of), London ...	30	0	0
Langsford & Co., London ...	19	0	0
Laslett, H. J., Chatham ...	5,533	0	0
Lehmann & Schimmer, London ...	735	0	0
London Hanover Stationery Company,			
London ...	18	0	0
Miller, S., London ...	94	0	0
Page, F., London ...	500	0	0
Paterson, Mitchell & Dawson, London ...	15	0	0
Rates and taxes ...	20	0	0
Robertet & Co., Paris ...	29	0	0
Roure Bertrand Fils, Grasse ...	74	0	0
Scheufler, A., Schma ...	48	0	0
Stephenson & Sons (Limited), Man-			
chester ...	53	0	0
Tombarel Frères, Grasse ...	168	0	0

## Gazette.

## Partnerships Dissolved.

**Dennis, J. W., and Dennis, F. W.,** under the style of John W. Dennis & Son, Louth, chemists and druggists and wine and spirit merchants.

## The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

## ADJUDICATION.

**Firth, Sydney**, Grantham, physician and surgeon.

POTASSIUM BICHROMATE, in doses of  $\frac{1}{100}$  gr. every two hours, effects a wonderful relief in aphonia or severe hoarseness resulting from a heavy cold.

## New Companies & Company News.

**GROVE & CO. (LIMITED).**—Capital 7,500*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of potters, stone and flint grinders, chemists, electricians, &c. The first directors are C. Wedgwood, F. H. Wedgwood, K. L. Wedgwood, and J. Shuttlebotham, each of whom may retain office so long as he holds 250 shares.

**G. TAYLOR & CO. (LIMITED).**—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of boiler-fluid, disinfectant and chemical manufacturers, drysalters, &c., carried on by G. Taylor and R. Canning at 205 Bolgrave Gate and 34 Friar Lane, Leicester as "G. Taylor & Co." Registered office, 34 Friar Lane, Leicester.

**ARTHUR J. WATTS' CRYSTAL MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 8,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of mineral water manufacturers carried on by A. J. Watts at Southend and Billericay, Essex. The first directors are W. T. Buxton, R. W. Romans, L. F. Hedger, A. Dix, and A. J. Watts. Registered office, Tyler's Avenue, Southend.

**DIALENE RUBBER COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire from G. E. Heyl-Dia certain secret processes for the manufacture of "Dialene" rubber from old and used rubber by means of chemical treatment. The first directors are G. E. Heyl-Dia, W. H. Cresswell, H. Wahnsley, and L. Reddaway. The two first-named are permanent managing directors. Qualification, 500 shares.

**"GYE PROCESS" FRESH FOODS (NEW) COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 60,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with Glynne, Fitter & Co. (Limited), for the acquisition of the business of "Gye's Process" Fresh Foods Company (Limited), together with L. Gye's secret process, and to manufacture and deal in the Gye's foods and any other preparation of medicinal, therapeutic, hygienic or cosmetic value. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors.

**BENNETT & CO. (LIMITED).**—Capital 8,000*l.*, in 2*l.* 10*s.* shares (1,000 preference). Objects: To acquire the business now carried on at Station Terrace, Cardiff, by Hicks & Co. (Limited) (in liquidation), and to carry on the business of wholesale and export druggists, manufacturing and analytical chemists, drysalters, oil and seed merchants, patent-medicine vendors, surgical instrument and appliance manufacturers, &c. The first subscribers are A. Bennett, 74 Connaught Road, Cardiff, wholesale druggist; A. Sheen, 23 Newport Road, Cardiff, M.D.; J. Griffiths, 37 Plymouth Road, Penarth, merchant; A. Rees, 29 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, physician and surgeon; A. Coleman, 27 Plasterston Gardens, Cardiff; P. Phillips, 24 St. Mary Street, Cardiff, jeweller; and J. N. Leigh, Queen Street, Cardiff, solicitor. The first directors are Alfred Sheen, James Griffiths, Alfred Coleman, and Arthur Bennett. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration, one guinea per board meeting attended.

IT IS REPORTED that Messrs. Armour & Co., of London and Chicago, will shortly convert their business into a corporation with a capital of \$20,000,000. Messrs. Armour's grain-business will not be included in the conversion.

**OXINE (LIMITED).**—In the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on February 24, the case of *Times v. Oxine (Limited)* came before Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy, on motion for judgment in default of defence. A previous reference to the action will be found in our issue of February 10, page 264, and Mr. Justice Cozens-Hardy made the usual order.

**SCOTTISH OIL AND CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).**—In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on February 22, intimation and service of a petition by Mr. J. R. Richards, solicitor, Swansea, was ordered, for the winding-up of this company, whose headquarters are at 20 Union Street, Glasgow. The petitioner says he is a creditor of the company to the extent of 17*l.* odd, for which he obtained decree from the Sheriff of Lanarkshire, and the ground of the petition is that the company have failed to pay that sum.

**A. MILLAR & CO. (LIMITED).**—The fifth ordinary general meeting of this company was held on February 27 at the offices of Messrs. Stokes Brothers & Pim, 33 College Green, Dublin. Mr. William Millar in the chair. The report and statement of accounts for the last financial year (ended November 30, 1899) showed a balance on the profit and loss account of 14,051*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, of which 3,625*l.* had already been expended as interim dividend. The directors recommended payment of a final dividend of 10 per cent on the ordinary shares, after paying the dividend on the preference shares, and adding 1,000*l.* to the general reserve account (now 9,500*l.*), carrying 2,901*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* to next account.

## Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1*l.*, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," February 14, 1900.)

"ALCARNOSE"; for goods in Class 3. By J. D. Riedel, Gericht Strasse 12-13, Berlin. 227,219.

"FRYBERG"; for an ointment. By Mildred Gwyn, Midhurst, Sussex. 227,533.

"DATONE" (no claim for "Date"); for chemical substances and perfumery. By S. Gulliver & Co. (Limited), 7 Argyll Street, London, W. 227,941, 227,943.

"GLAZO" (no claim for "Glaze"); for creams, polishes, enamels, &c. By Pearson, Bennion & Kelley, 96 Highcross Street, Leicester. 227,550.

(Application in Cape Colony.)

Device of open hand; for chemical substances, &c. By Suter Hartman and Rahtjens Composition Company (Limited), Cape Town. To be applied for after 2nd March, 1900.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," February 21, 1900.)

"INDICAL"; for a veterinary preparation. By W. Poppelreuter 54 Portland Street, Manchester. 228,293.

"TRAUMATOLE," "TRAWMATOLE," and "TRAWMATOL" (no claim for "Traumato"); for a new antiseptic. By Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited), 179 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 227,311, 227,312, 227,313.

"GUBAR" and "RAMTAR"; for medicine. By Ellen Woodcock, 757 Romford Road, Essex. 227,365, 227,366.

"PEDUSCURO"; for a foot-ointment. By James Sheppard, 9 Park-side, London, S.W. 227,723.

"COSMETINE"; for an absorbent glycerin jelly. By H. H. Mason, 7 Broadway, West Norwood, S.E. 227,808.

"CERETTES" (no claim for "Ceret"); for external medicines. By Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited), 179 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 227,884.

Signature of applicants; for mineral and aerated waters. By Millin & Rankin, McAuley Street, Belfast. 226,857.

"SINARA," and device of beehives, &c.; for mineral and aerated waters. By Isidor Hennig, 29 Ely Place, E.C. 227,275.

"IONDA" (no claim for "Ion"); for a preparation for the hair. By Alice M. Brown-Westhead and R. Hardy, 111 Church Road, Hove. 226,989.

"POUDRE D'AMOUR," and other wording on label (essential particulars, combination of devices and word "Amour"); for toilet-powder. By R. Hovenden & Sons, 30 and 33 Berners Street, W. 227,391, 227,392.

"KUPIDYNE"; for perfumery and toilet preparations. By T. M. O'Connor, The Medical Hall, Athlone. 227,812.

"GLOBELINE"; for pastes, soaps, powders, &c. By Fritz Schutz, jun., 44 Kaiser Wilhelm Strasse, Leipzig. 222,274.

"POPPY POLISH," device of poppy, and name "essential particulars," "Poppy" and device; for polishing-preparations. By Sarson & Barter, 96 Naylor Road, Peckham, S.E. 227,904.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," February 28, 1900.)

"STOMALIX" (no claim for "Stoma"); for medicine. By R. S. De Carlos, Serrano 30, Madrid. 226,548.

"SANDOWS" portrait and signature; for chemical substances, perfumery, and toilet-articles. By Eugen Sandow, Savoy Corner, Victoria Embankment, W.C. 227,037, 227,044.

Device of leaf; for chemical substances. By the Omega Chemical Company, 29 Central Street, Boston, U.S.A. 227,679.

"FROSTILLA" (no claim for "Frost"); for a medicinal and also toilet preparation. By Clay W. Holmes, 410 West Gray Street, Elmira, U.S.A. 227,454, 227,176.

"PHENOPHORNE"; for goods in Class 3. By Major & Co. (Limited), 447 Wincolmae, Hull. 228,173.

"KAROS," and wording on label (essential particular "Karos"); for a natural aerated table-water. By Rayner & Co., 11 Clerkenwell Green, E.C. 227,111.



## Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

### EVENING MEETING.

AT Dublin on February 26 the usual meeting was held at 67 Lower Mount Street, Mr. J. Smith, M.C.P.S.I., in the chair. There were about twenty present, amongst whom were Professor Tichborne, LL.D., Dr. J. C. McWalter, and Messrs. W. F. Wells, M.C.P.S.I., H. O'Connor, M.P.S.I., P. Kelly, M.C.P.S.I., and W. Vincent Johnston, M.P.S.I.

A lecture entitled

### SOME FACTS ABOUT THE DISTRIBUTION OF PLANTS,

illustrated by limelight-views, was delivered by Mr. J. N. LAIRD, B.A., of Trinity College. The lecturer began by giving a general description of the geographical and geological distribution of plants and the mechanical methods made use of by plants, and a large number of slides were shown illustrative of this part of the subject. The depression and elevation of land, and the causes thereof, were touched upon. Rocks, stratified and volcanic, were considered, and the stone age and things pertaining thereto came in for due attention. Organic change due to physical surroundings was referred to, and the theory of the survival of the fittest was advanced in connection with the overgrowth of animal and plant life, in which a constant struggle for existence was maintained. Plant-distribution, the lecturer said, was best studied in islands, because of the restricted area and defined boundary, together with the fact that the number of species and genera was always much smaller than in continents. Continental and oceanic islands were contrasted, as were also the mammal world, ancient and modern. The geology of ancient continental islands and the botanical geography of the Azores was described. Of 480 phanerogams and ferns 440 were found in Europe, and 40 others were allied to the European species. The methods of plant-propagation and Darwin's experiments in the germination of plants were reviewed. Azorean plants were classified into their respective families; 45 were found to have pappus or winged seeds, 65 had very minute seeds, 30 had fleshy fruits, such as were greedily eaten by birds, and 84 were glumaceous plants, all of which were well adapted for wind and water. There were no trees or shrubs with large or heavy fruits in the Azores; such trees as the oak, hazel, chestnut, &c., so common in Europe, were unknown, the heaviest timber being small berry-bearers. The lecturer next took his audience through the Galapagos and described the flora. Of 332 phanerogams, 174 were peculiar to the place and the remaining 158 were common to other countries. Of the latter class, 20 were introduced by man and the remainder were natives of some parts of America. The equality of the North and South American species of plants was very significant, when it was considered that the peculiar species were allied to the plants of temperate America, and the non-peculiar species were mostly such as inhabited the hotter parts of the tropics near the sea-level. The seeds of the latter kind had often special means of transport, or belonged to groups of plants whose seeds were known to stand long voyages and to possess great vitality. Several American species of plants were found in north and north-western parts of the British Isles, and a number of West and South European plants were found in Ireland but not in Great Britain. The causes of the dispersal of seeds were wind, rivers, ocean currents, icebergs, birds and other animals, and human agency, while the chief barriers to dispersal were ocean, unsuitable climate, deserts, and mountains. At the conclusion of the lecture, which occupied close on two hours in delivery, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer on the motion of Mr. KELLY, seconded by Mr. H. O'CONNOR.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS IN KOREA.**—In a communication from the French consul at Seoul, it is stated that chemical and pharmaceutical products are imported into Korea to the annual value of 200,000f. About half of these importations come from China and Japan, the other half from the United States and Europe. Of this sum quinine figures for 2,500f., which is all of German make. Seoul and Chemulpo are the principal markets for drugs and chemicals.

## Trade Notes.

MESSRS. W. BUTCHER & SON have taken a showroom in the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate Street, E.C., for a few days, to show samples of new photo goods and apparatus. A postcard to Mr. Frank Butcher, at the hotel, will ensure an appointment with him.

MR. H. RUBECK, of 61 Mark Lane, E.C., agent for Holmboe's cod-liver oil, sends us a sample of this season's make, which is as good as any we have seen this year. It is pale and almost odourless and tasteless. Mr. Rubeck, we should explain, only supplies wholesalers.

**INCOME-TAX REPAYMENTS.**—The Income-tax Adjustment Agency (Limited), 12 and 13 Poultry, E.C., wishes to remind our subscribers that no claim for repayment of tax deducted from rents, dividends, annuities, &c., in respect of the year ended April 5, 1897, will be allowed unless lodged before April 5 next. Where the income has been received and tax paid, a claim can now be made for four years. The Agency will advise any of our readers gratuitously whether they can make a claim for repayment of income-tax, on their sending them full particulars of their incomes and a stamped addressed envelope.

**SHOP-LABELS AND SUNDRIES.**—The most recent additions to the already large list of specialities carried by Messrs. Thomas Christy & Co., 25 Lime Street, E.C., include a new evergreen colouring for the preparation of eau de quinine and such-like proprietaries, which is distinct from their colourings for perfumes and toilet articles. They have also been appointed agents for Strong's Arnica Tooth-soap, and the collapsible tubes which the firm supply in all shapes and shades have been further improved for the benefit of the customer by printing the name of the contents free on each tube if the retailer so desires it. The tube series is varied and brilliant, and gold printing on a transparent-green ground or green letters on dulled silver looks particularly effective and high-class. But the very latest is the series of "Glasscine" labels Messrs. Christy have introduced for use on chemists' stock bottles. These labels are made of very thin transparent sheets of celluloid and are finished in pure gold-leaf and painted on the reverse side, which gives them the exact appearance of glass labels; in fact, it is claimed that they are an improvement on the ordinary glass labels, as they will neither break, tarnish, nor come off the bottle.

They can be had in various designs, one or two of which we show, and the lettering may be had either in gold shaded black, black shaded with gold, or variations of the same tinted with red. Frostilla, a toilet preparation for chapped hands, is also worthy of notice, and Messrs. Christy have capsules in great variety from the three-quarter grain size to veterinary size which holds a quarter of an ounce. Pictet's ethyl chloride, in its useful and handy container, seems to have caught on with medical men.

THE latest Dr. Williams's Pink Pills for Pale People advertisement is headed "Margarine or Butter? Medicine or Substitute?" It tells about a supposititious, very supposititious, conversation between a butter-shopman and his customer, and the retailer of pills and his customer. The charm of the advertisement to us lies in the following paragraph:—

The character of substitutes is shown by everything connected with them. They are often a good deal cheaper than Dr. Williams's pink pills, yet a dishonest shopkeeper is anxious to sell them. Why? Because, however cheap they are, he can still make more profit by selling useless substitutes made of common drugs, than by selling the genuine pills.

These italics occur in the advertisement. It is this principle of profit-making which takes men into business, isn't it? Please, Dr. Williams, try another.



# Correspondence

## Another Play-bill.

[This one was not picked up near the British Museum.—EDITOR.]

THEATRE OF ANXIETIES,  
Market Place, Bloomsbury.

Lessee and Manager... .. Mr. N. U. Cavendysh Strete  
Acting Manager ... .. Mr. Penn Bridge

On March 7 and until further notice  
Mr. Mykelkarté's

WORLD-RENOVED STOCK COMPANY  
will continue to give monthly performances at the old stand.

The Company's *répertoire* consists of a new version of a powerful  
tragedy, entitled

"SLOTHFUL SILENCE,"

which has been played by this Company for the past thirty years.

Also

A new Melodrama  
in two acts,  
entitled

"A MINOR AFFAIR,"

by

Mr. Glone Gwynns.

At each performance—

Mr. Cavendysh Strete  
will introduce

His Celebrated Enigma—

"I say that all I can say is that there is nothing to say."

Mr. Mykelkarté  
will perform  
his

Fêtes du Bluff  
and

Continue to keep a strict eye on the Manager.

Mr. Glone Gwynns  
will, as usual,

Run his Head against a Stone Wall  
with no visible effect either on himself or the wall

Private Salisbury  
will give

a THRILLING Performance  
of his Military Sketch—

"Blowing up the Boats on a Burning Bridge."

THE YOUTHFUL BARD  
will warble

"Touche not the Unclean Thing,"

and

the other members of the Company will sing

"Dumb."

The Limelight effects (guaranteed to be of at least three-candle  
power) and the incidental patter will be provided

AT ENORMOUS COST

by

The Company's own Gasers.

The Management are compelled to announce that, owing to the  
enormous popularity of this programme, the free-list will be  
entirely suspended. Time and prices as usual.

## Spirit, Ammon, Arom.

SIR,—It has apparently escaped the attention of Mr. White and those present at the evening meeting on February 13 that the strength of the test solution of barium chloride now official differs from that of the 1885 B.P. in being slightly stronger, now containing 1 part by weight in 10 parts by volume, instead of 1 part and 10 parts by volume of water as formerly (1885 B.P., page 482). Therefore both the quantity of the solution used and its strength have been slightly increased.

Yours faithfully,

FRANK R. DUDDERIDGE.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, February 23.

## Division of Minor.

SIR,—Your correspondent "C. O. G." does not argue fairly when he says "medical men qualify by piecemeal examination." Granted; but let us consider that they study under different conditions. They have a compulsory curriculum of five years, and surely he would not allow a candidate to pass at one examination the whole of the subjects it has taken him five years to learn. I would ask "C. O. G.," "Does each part of their examination cover the scope of less than one year's work?" Now, if a Minor candidate used well his time during apprenticeship, he ought to grasp easily the Minor subjects in less than a year at a good pharmaceutical school. I contend that a division of the Minor is undesirable unless we adopt a compulsory curriculum along with it. The object of a change in the present examination-system of the Society would be to secure greater efficiency, not to enable candidates to pass more easily. Again, division would doubtless result in a more stringent and searching examination in the individual subjects, and it would of course follow that the percentage of failures would still further increase. If there is really a grievance in regard to the present Minor, it is that the candidate is examined in too many subjects in a very limited time; but that could be altered without dividing the examination as suggested.

Yours truly,

ANTIPYRIN. (13/66.)

## English Assistants on the Riviera.

OUR colleagues abroad, writes W. M. (9/66), are quite as enthusiastic about Mr. Rudyard Kipling's song as we are at home. One of them from Monte Carlo writes to say that:—

He's a free-and-easy beggar, but his lot is very hard,  
And you'll always know at night just where to find him;  
He's out at Charlie's Mountain, marking numbers on a card,  
And he leaves a lot of little bits behind him.  
Cartwheels, Louis, plaques of a hundred francs  
(It gen'ly always seems to be the "blimy" table's day),  
All to swell the dividends and earn the directors' thanks,  
But with *nil desperandum* he will play, play, play.

## Assistants' Applications.

SIR,—In reading the remarks of Messrs. McKellar and Kerr on the above subject, it has occurred to me that chemists' assistants are not the only culprits in the matter of slovenly correspondence. For example, in applying for my first assistantship, I inquired whether the situation offered was an outdoor or an indoor one, and received the comforting reply that the birth was indoor. (It is not unusual for births to be indoors, I believe.) Again, one of my prospective employers signed his name in such an illegible manner that it was only after consultation with five experts in handwriting, and reference to the register of chemists and druggists, that the hieroglyphic could be deciphered. As for the heinous crime of writing out applications on our virtuous employers' notepaper, what can be said for the honesty of the employer who systematically extorts overtime from his assistants but forgets to pay for the same? With regard to Mr. Kerr's "apparently poorly-educated person," I do not see what there is to cavil at. If every employer wrote in such a straightforward and honest manner, and tried to act up to his promises afterwards, there would be fewer causes of dissatisfaction amongst employes. Considering the long hours, short pay, lack of time for recreation and culture, and other disadvantages associated with the chemist's business, to me it is surprising to find as



high a standard of intelligence amongst our embryo pharmacists as does exist, and, in my experience, in general education Jack compares very favourably with his master.

Yours respectfully,  
COUNTRY BUMPKIN. (215/69.)

### Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

12/20. *A. B.*—No one may act as a valuer of businesses for fee without taking out an appraiser's licence, for which the annual fee is 2*l.* Consult your local Excise Supervisor in regard to it.

10/55. *More Light.*—As recently explained, the original patent for the Welsbach light has expired; but several years of the working-patents have still to run.

6/8. *Ino* occupies a house, without lease or agreement, the ownership of which has several times changed hands, and the husband of the present owner has given him a quarter's notice to quit. The owner promised him a lease, but this has not been granted, although he has spent a lot of money on the house. What should he do? [Our correspondent is apparently a yearly tenant, and therefore entitled to six months' notice, expiring at that period of the year at which his tenancy commenced. With regard to the notice to quit, the husband can only give notice as the wife's agent and with her authority. Our correspondent had better tell his landlady that he does not intend to accept the notice and claims a lease. Our correspondent should have had the promise of a lease in writing before he put the property in repair. If, however, the terms of the proposed lease were definitely arranged, and it was one of those terms that our correspondent should put the property in repair, the doctrine of part-performance comes in, and our correspondent might probably succeed in an action to compel specific performance of the verbal agreement by the grant of a lease for the term and at the rent agreed upon.]

259/74. *Cologne* asks, "Whether a person in England, if not specially entitled to it, can legally use the name of Johann Maria Farina?" There is no law to prevent him, but if he uses it in order to commit fraud he can be prosecuted for that offence.

4/14. *Inquirer.*—The stamp-department at Somerset House has power to stamp any document, such as a lease, which has been omitted to be stamped when signed. They, however, impose a penalty (10*l.*), but have power to modify it according to the circumstances of the case.

14/49. *Cepia.*—Illness does not stop an ordinary engagement as assistant, unless there is something specific in the agreement respecting it, or the employer notifies the assistant as provided in the agreement. A Court would no doubt award you the compensation provided in the agreement, subject to reasonable deductions for extraordinary expenditure which your employer was put to on account of your illness. His violation of the agreement in one particular does not justify you in violating it in another; but before we could advise you more fully on that point we should like to read the agreement.

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

1/24. *Sulphite.*—The charges for the Sulphur-bath are probably an acid or acid salt (such as acid sulphate of potash) and hyposulphite of soda. With these two chemicals sulphur is precipitated and sulphurous-acid gas evolved.

258/71. *P. C. F.*—Methyl blue is much used as an addition to gall-and-iron inks to make them blue-black,

249/21. *G. C.*—The Winter-cream ("Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 11) does not separate quickly if well made. Why not try some of the other toilet-creams in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" if you cannot turn out this one satisfactorily?

256/65. *W. M.*—Both nitric acid and sulphuric acid are used for testing indigo-dyed cloth. The method was given in the *C. & D.*, October 28, 1899, page 703.

5/46. *M. B.*—The solution used for Preserving Small Specimens of Fish is either Möller's solution, made by dissolving 2 oz. potassium bichromate and 1 oz. sodium sulphate in 3 pints of distilled water, or a strong solution of chloride of zinc. Rectified spirit is also used, but is more expensive. A recent practice is to use weak formalin solution in which is dissolved a little chrome alum.

253/35. *R. B.*—Bird-stuffing.—The bird is first skinned, the operation being started through an incision under the wing. The inner side of the skin is covered with taxidermist's soap (*C. & D.*, February 10, 1900, page 268), and the skin filled up with a false body of tow, or stuffed to the original shape with pellets of cotton-wool, both the tow and cotton-wool being liberally treated with the arsenical soap. In mounting the specimen regard must be paid to the characteristics of the bird, so as to give as lifelike an appearance as possible. We are only able to give you the barest details here, and you should consult Montague Browne's "Practical Taxidermy" for further details and particulars of the tools required.

1/18. *Viola.*—The deposit of sugar in your syr. violæ is probably due to inversion of the cane-sugar. This cannot be entirely prevented, but may be delayed if the syrup is made without heat.

173/9. *T. M.*—By "Naphtha Dry for Potassium" is meant a coal-tar spirit freed completely from any trace of water in order that metallic potassium may be kept in it without fear of explosion.

266/9. *H. T. W.*—Hoblyn's "Dictionary of Medical Terms," published by Whittaker & Co. at 10*s.* 6*d.*, is as good a book as you could wish. A small dictionary is published by Churchill, at 2*s.* 6*d.*

259/39. *E. F.*—Liquefying Gases.—The following list of gases which have been liquefied, with the temperatures and pressures required, will show you the hopelessness of looking for a gas "easily condensed at about a pressure of ten atmospheres or less":—

	Critical Temperature	Critical Pressure
	Deg. C.	Atmospheres
Hydrogen selenide ...	138	91
Ammonia ... ..	130	115
Propane ... ..	97	44
Nitrous oxide ... ..	35	75
Ethane ... ..	34	50.2
Carbon dioxide ... ..	31	75
Ethylene ... ..	10	51.7
Methane ... ..	- 81.8	54.9
Nitric oxide ... ..	- 93.5	71.2
Oxygen ... ..	-118.8	50.8
Argon ... ..	-121	50.6
Carbon monoxide ...	-139.5	35.5
Air ... ..	-140	39
Nitrogen ... ..	-146	35
Hydrogen ... ..	-234	20

1/72. *W. A. P.*—Particulars of the Dowsing radiant-heat treatment were given in the *C. & D.*, August 5, 1899, page 267. The address of the company is 24 Budge Row, E.C.

17/2. *G. W. B. P.*—The sample of oil you sent was badly packed, and the bottle got broken in the post. The oil can be freed from acid by washing—shaking with water or solution of sodium carbonate, and decanting several times.

6/53. *Remijia*.—**Hæmorrhage from Tooth-extraction**.—A 1-in-10 solution of tannin in tincture of myrrh generally suffices to stop hæmorrhage after extraction. For very severe hæmorrhages tincture of perchloride of iron or the strong liquor is used, and pressure on the gums is frequently necessary. You will find some useful information in regard to tooth-extraction in "Diseases and Remedies," published by us.

1/940. *Comp.*.—The **Drying-closet** which you have is constructed on the recognised principles, but it is customary to utilise the waste heat of steam-boilers for drying such things as effervescing salines. The rooms immediately over or adjacent to the boiler are fitted up for the purpose in somewhat the same fashion as your own. It would pay you to take expert advice seeing that you have spent a good deal of money in constructing a new factory, and you might communicate with Messrs. Bennett, Sons & Shears (Limited).

257/42. *Essence*.—(1) Your sample of **Soluble Essence of Lemon** is somewhat weak: the proportion of lemon-peel should be quite 4 lbs. to the gallon, and proof spirit is best as the menstruum. (2) A glass retort and Liebig condenser answer perfectly for making small quantities of soluble essence of ginger by the McGarth process.

257/34. *Rumex*.—**Dead-black Varnish**.—See *C. & D.* December 24, 1898, page 1027.

256/13. *M. W. J.*.—Boric acid is the most-used preservative for bottled cream. The quantity used is about 30 gr. to the pint.

255/42. *Morphia*.—**Fixing Leather to Iron**.—This is managed by wetting the leather with tannin solution and coating the iron with glue before putting them together. The results by this method are very good. A mixture of asphalt and guttapercha has been recommended, but we have never tried it.

256/8. *Butler*.—**Tonic not containing poison**.—The following is excellent:—

Ae. nit. mur. dil.	...	...	...	5j.
Tr. gent. co.	...	...	...	5iss.
Tr. limonis	...	...	...	5iss.
Aq. chloroformi ad	...	...	...	5xx.

Mix and filter bright.

Dose: One tablespoonful two or three times a day in water.

258/16. *D. B. J.*—Powdered bitter-apple, for putting in clothes as a preservative against moth, is the powder of the whole colocynth, not the pulp only.

555. *Digitalis*.—**Goodwill** is still paid in respect of the purchase of chemists' and druggists' businesses in the minority of cases, one to two years' net profit being considered a fair price for this consideration by individuals. Limited companies appear to pay more. See *C. & D.*, February 10, page 255.

4/55. *H. P.*.—The Society of Chemical Industry might be an advantage to you. See address in the *DIARY*.

6/30. *G. M.*.—We understand that the difficulty you experience in preventing turpentine separating from boot-creams made with carnauba wax is general. The difficulty is overcome by using Gambia or Jamaica beeswax in place of the carnauba wax.

253/61. *J. G. J.*.—**Glazing Leather Bags**.—For this purpose either gelatin and formalin, gelatin and potassium bichromate, or albumen is used. An examination of some scrapings from the surface of the leather should give you the clue as to what was used in the particular case you mention.

251/37. *Assistant*.—**Sheep-dip** to answer as a horse and cow wash:—

Crude cresol	...	...	...	1 pint.
Carbolic soft soap	...	...	...	1½ lb.

Mix, and direct this quantity to be mixed with 25 gals. of warm water for a sheep-dip. For use on horses and cows, only half the quantity of water is required.

## Information Supplied.

### For Flatulence.

It may be of use to some of the readers of your valuable paper to know that pil. creosoti are the finest pills which can be retailed over the counter as wind-pills. When asked for wind-pills, I invariably sell them with successful results.

J. S. D. D. (172/49.)

### An Old Recipe.

98/2. *J. C. C.* sends us a copy of a 100-year-old recipe he recently made up:—*Effamous American Remedy for the Cure of the Rheumatism, and in some cases even a Contraction of the joints*.—Take of garlick two cloves, of gum ammonia one drachm; bruise them well together in a mortar, and make the mixture into two or three boluses with spring-water, and take one of them every night and morning, and drink regularly while taking them very strong sassafras-tea. The cures performed by this recipe in America have been extremely numerous." "J. C. C." adds that he turned out a good mass without using the "spring-water."

### Dr. McCall Anderson's Ung. Bismuth. Oleat.

Bism. oxid.	...	...	...	5j.
Acid. oleic.	...	...	...	5j.
Cerae alb.	...	...	...	5iss.
Vaselini	...	...	...	5ix.

M.S.A.

J. C. M. (158/74.)

### For Rheumatiz?

The third ingredient in the following order puzzled "J.S." He asked our opinion. We suggested that "Proto-iodide of potash" was meant, but asked our readers' views, some of which are now appended:—

- 1 pennyworth of gungolako.
- 1 ditto turpentine.
- 1 ditto protioles.

The third ingredient is "Tincture Aloes." I have often made it up, sometimes with 1*℥*. sal volatile a 1*℥*ed.

Raunds, Thrapston.

J. GANT.

I take it that "protioles" means "Elixir Proprietatis." This, as you doubtless know, is a preparation of aloes. I frequently sell it.

Birmingham.

JAMES WALKER.

Messrs. Gorton & Sons, Aldgate, E., would have given 1*℥*. tincture gum guaiacum, 1*℥*. spirit turpentine, 1*℥*. spirit nitre. They are often asked for this incompatible mixture.

Mr. T. Postlethwaite, Southsea, says "J. S." would best serve the wishes of the prescriber by dispensing tr. asafetide for "protioles," though tincture of guaiacum, turpentine, and wine of aloes form a trio more frequently demanded.

Mr. H. J. Stephens, of Loughborough Junction, thinks the third ingredient in the recipe is a corruption of "proprietary"—the elixir proprietatis of Paracelsus, for which the tr. aloes comp. of the London and Dublin Pharmacopœias is the substitute. In the Midlands some thirty years ago it used to be frequently asked for as "tincture of potatoes."

Replies have also been received from Messrs. W. Izon Aston, Birmingham, J. W. Hornsby, Pickering, and G. W. Jelley, Coventry.

## Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

9/34. Makers of plain square tins to hold ¼ lb. "Health-salts."

6/49. Can anyone inform us of any use to which amadon in lumps may be put, or who will buy such material?

11/74. What is "Dermatine"—a preparation said to be extensively used in Norway and Sweden for the skin—where can it be had?

6/58. Address of makers of rolls of stout gummed paper about 1½ inch to 2 inches wide, as used by sanitary inspectors to cover crevices preparatory to fumigation.



## Practical Notes.

### FERMENTED MILK.

A FORMULA for a fermented milk may be useful to those fortunate pharmacists having a decent prescription business. A correspondent suggests that samples be sent to near-by doctors. It is unnecessary to dilate upon its uses:—

Fresh milk	...	...	...	16 oz.
Distilled water	...	...	...	4 oz.
Brown sugar	...	...	...	150 gr.
Compressed yeast	...	...	...	24 gr.
Sugar of milk	...	...	...	180 gr.

Dissolve the sugars and yeast in warm water and add to the milk, set aside for twenty-four hours in warm place, bottle, and keep in cool cellar. This preparation keeps good for two weeks, and is best taken ice-cold.

### BROWN-MIXTURE TABLETS.

Pulv. ext. glycyrrhiz.	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{20}$
Camphor	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{50}$
Acid. benzoic.	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{50}$
Ol. anisi	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{50}$
Pulv. opii	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{50}$
Antim. tart.	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{120}$

Ft. tablet.

For bronchial coughs and colds, one dissolved in the mouth every half-hour or so.

### BENZOATED-CAMPHOR ICE.

Pure lard	...	...	...	1½ oz.
Lanoline	...	...	...	½ oz.
Spermaceti	...	...	...	2½ oz.
Camphor	...	...	...	1 oz.
Almond oil	...	...	...	2 oz.
Benzoic acid	...	...	...	6 gr.
Oil of cajuput	...	...	...	10 drops

Melt the lard, lanoline, and spermaceti, dissolve the camphor in the oil with heat, and add to melted fats. When nearly cold stir in the benzoic acid and the oil of cajuput and pour in moulds.

## North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association.

At a meeting of the executive of this Association, held at the White Bull Hotel, Blackburn, on Feb. 23, the Federation recommendations were considered, and it was unanimously decided not to entertain any proposition other than that represented by the first resolution, or to oppose Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, and get chemists in Clause 3. It was further decided that Mr. Councillor Shorrocks, Mr. Wells, and the Secretary (Mr. R. L. Gifford) form a deputation, with power to add to their numbers, to interview, when convenient, the members of Parliament in the division. Mr. James Booth, Ph.C., and Mr. Percy Bean, F.C.S., have since completed the deputation, and an interview has been arranged with Sir Harry Hornby, M.P.

Mr. William Wells moved that a special general meeting be held on March 6 to consider a motion "that Mr. R. L. Gifford be asked to permit himself to be nominated as a candidate at the forthcoming Council election." The mover said the time had arrived when they must see that reactionary forces were too strong for them—in which case they might give up the struggle—or they must run a candidate of their own. He for one was determined to make a stand. Mr. William Holt seconded, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

**NEW AERATED-WATER FACTORY.**—Messrs. Watkins (Limited), chemists and druggists, Shanghai, intend to lay down a plant for an aerated-water factory, and to enter upon the supply of aerated-waters from March 31 next. Machinery of the most modern character is to be supplied by Messrs. Hayward-Tyler & Co. The services of an additional English chemist have been secured to specially superintend the new undertaking. The feature of the plant is a patent Berkefeld filter capable of subjecting to a perfect distilled process no less than a thousand gallons of water an hour,

## Proprietary Articles Trade Association.

### MEETING OF COUNCIL.

A MEETING of the Council of the P.A.T.A. was held in London on February 22, when the following members were present:—Messrs. W. R. Barnes (Upton Manor), E. P. Sanger (John Sanger & Sons), W. F. Powell (Thomas Powell, Limited), J. E. Garratt ("Frog-in-your-Throat"), G. R. Barclay (Barclay & Sons, Limited), C. J. G. Bunker (London), S. Roberts (May, Roberts & Co.), A. Cooper (South Kensington), L. Newbery (F. Newbery & Sons), S. N. Pickard (Bradford), P. F. Rowsell (Exeter), T. P. Garrett (Newport), J. Shorrocks (Bovril, Limited), P. Edgar (Edgar's Croup Lotion), and W. S. Glyn-Jones (Secretary). The report of the Executive Committee was submitted and unanimously adopted.

A letter from the Secretary of the Dublin Chemists' Federation, enclosing one from Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. on the subject of the small profit on their preparations, was submitted to the meeting.

Mr. Pickard stated that a Halifax chemist had received a letter from Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., intimating that they had made a private arrangement with chemists in several towns, by which their list-prices were fixed as the minimum cutting-prices, but so far as Bradford and Halifax chemists were concerned they had never heard of such an arrangement, and he would like to know if the Secretary could give him any information on the subject.

The Secretary replied that Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. had a private scheme by which direct buyers signed an undertaking not to sell below list-prices, but the profit guaranteed was not a satisfactory one. After some discussion the Secretary was asked to see if Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. would meet a deputation of a few members of the Council on the subject.

Arising out of other letters from members of the Association, Mr. Garratt moved—

That the change of executive control of any proprietary article on the Protected List severed the connection of such article from the Association, and that it be necessary for the new proprietors to make a fresh application to join the Association, this application to be considered by the Executive Committee, who shall have power to either accept or refuse such application, such application to run from the date of the first application.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Bunker, and unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman said he would like to warn the trade against over-buying protected articles on account of the extra discounts.

Mr. Garratt remarked that the retail chemists were often themselves to blame for being overstocked, as they insisted on buying large quantities of goods in order to obtain better discounts. Buyers of surplus stocks, offered at less than makers' prices, were almost as much to blame as the sellers.

Mr. Roberts said it would be a convenience if the P.A.T.A. were on the telephone, and offered to subscribe five guineas a year towards this particular object.

The offer was accepted.

## New Books.

*Annual of Microscopy*, 1900. 9½ × 6½. Pp. 142. Sewed, 2s. 6d. net. (Lund.)

Davis, J. R. A. *Flowering Plant*; as illus. First Principles of Botany. Appen. on Prac. Work. 7½ × 5¼. Pp. 212. 3s. 6d. (Griffin.)

Ladenburg, A. *History of the Development of Chemistry*. Trans. by Professor Dobbin. 7¼ × 5¼. Pp. 373. 6s. 6d. (Simpkin, Marshall.)

Norris, E. J. *Physiological Action of Alcohol*. 7½ × 5. Pp. 62. 1s. net. (Swan Sonnenschein.)

Park, W. H., Guerard, A. R. *Bacteriology in Medicine and Surgery*. 8 × 5½. Pp. 694. 15s. net. (H. Kimpton.)

Stark, A. C. *Aids to Practical Pharmacy for Medical Students*. 6½ × 4. Pp. 170. 2s. (paper covers); 3s. 6d. (cloth covers). (Baillière, Tindall & Cox.)

## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: March 1.

**T**HERE is a dull tone about the markets this week, and business in most articles is of a retail character. No important changes have occurred, but an advance is shortly expected in salicin, while tannic acid is also firmer. Saffron is selling freely at firm rates, and otto of rose is reported to be dearer in Bulgaria. There is more business doing in new cod-liver oil, but prices have a downward tendency, although reports indicate a small catch so far. Quinine is moving up and down uneasily in second hands, but, taking the week throughout, the market is unchanged at 1s. 5½d. for March. The result of the quinine-auctions in Batavia is awaited here with interest. The principal changes of the week are as below:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Cinnamon (fine)	Acid, tannic	Bichromates	Cardamoms
Petroleum	Acid, tartaric	Ergot of rye	Kino
Saffron	Cinchona	Guaiacum	Oil, cassia
Senna-pods	(Huanoco)	Oil, cod liver	Oil, linseed
	Ipecacuanha		
	Pepper		
	Salicin		
	Wax, Japan.		
	(c.i.f.)		

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom, from February 22 to 28, both inclusive:—Benzoin, 64; buchu, 4; cardamoms, 164; cascara sagrada, 279; cannabis indica, 793; cassia oil, 25; cinchona, 493; croton-seed, 18; cod-liver oil, 78; ergot, 7; galangal, 100; galls (Jap.), 40; gentian, 7; gum arabic (Bombay), 166; gum, olibanum, 627; honey (Calif.), 633; insect-powder, 50; juniper berries, 18; kola (W.C.A.), 9; lime-juice, 667; lime oil, 9; mandrake-root, 127; opium, 42; quinine (cases), 23; scammonium, 4; senna, 615; soy, 100; turmeric, 125; vanilla, 2; wax, bees' (E. I.) 16; (Cape), 58; (Jam.), 9.

### Loyal Lanians.

On Majuba Day the members of the Commercial Sale-rooms, Mincing Lane, could not resist showing appreciation of Lord Roberts's telegram from the Orange Free State. At noon, when some two hundred were present, Mr. A. H. Rolls started the National Anthem, which was heartily sung. Ringing cheers were afterwards given for Lord Roberts, Buller, and Tommy Atkins. On 'Change a suitable precursor did not turn up, so the section of the commercial community who meet there treated the matter as a matter of course. On Thursday at noon the members of the Commercial Sale-rooms again demonstrated on hearing of Lady-smith's relief. The members marched round the room singing "Soldiers of the Queen." Cheers were then given for General Buller and Tommy Atkins, after which the members went in procession to the Baltic, which is where the oil-trade has its being. Another lot at 3.30 marched in a body to the Royal Exchange, where a demonstration was held, and Mr. John Mullett gave the final touch of rose to the patriotic proceedings, in which the most austere of 'Change frequenters heartily joined.

### A Californian-honey Combination.

According to advices from California, apiarists are combining with the object of keeping up the price of honey and reducing the cost of supplies. A corporation has been formed with a capital stock

of \$10,000, divided into 10,000 shares of the par value of \$1 each. The organisation is to exist for a period of fifty years. One of the leading men in the movement states that with a combination like the one suggested the bee-keepers would be in a position to dictate to the market and also to maintain their rights when it came to the price to be paid for supplies. It is recommended that a board of directors be appointed to hold office for one year, with power to select two executive committees, the duties of these committees to be to negotiate for and purchase and sell commodities consigned to or owned by the association. The State of California produces from 50 to 75 per cent. of the total output of the country, the average crop being about 1,200 carloads.

## Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

There is still a good general business passing in the heavy-chemical market, and that particularly for home trade requirements, although, at the same time, exports keep up very fairly. Stocks of all the principal products are very low indeed, and values are, consequently, firmly and easily maintained.

**ALKALI PRODUCE.**—Bleaching-powder is in brisk request, and very firm at late rates. Softwood casks, free on rails, 7l. per ton; f.o.b. Liverpool, 7l. 2s. 6d.; f.o.b. Tyne, 7l. 5s. Caustic soda strongly maintains its firm position, and is still scarce; 76 to 77 per cent., 11l.; 70 per cent., 10l. 5s.; and 60 per cent., 9l. 5s. per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Soda crystals firm, at 2l. 17s. 6d. Tyne, and 3l. 2s. 6d., f.o.b. Liverpool. Ammonia alkali scarce, 4l. 7s. 6d. to 4l. 12s. 6d. per ton, free on rails in bags. Soda ash, 52 per cent., 5l. 10s., f.o.b. Tyne. Yellow prussiate of potash is somewhat quieter, but best Lancashire makes are steadily maintained at 8d. per lb. Silicates of soda are in good inquiry and very firm, 140° Tw., 3l. 17s. 6d. to 4l. 2s. 6d.; 100 Tw., 3l. 12s. 6d. to 3l. 15s.; and 75° Tw., 3l. 5s. to 3l. 7s. 6d., all per ton in usual casks, f.o.b. Tyne or Liverpool, with customary extras for other packages. Bicarbonate of soda, in casks, 6l. 7s. 6d. per ton; and in 1-cwt. kegs, 7l., f.o.b. Liverpool. Salts are quiet, at 26s. to 27s. per ton, free on rails in bulk. Sodium sulphate, glauber's salts, 30s. to 32s. 6d. per ton on rails in bags. Hyposulphate of soda steady, at 6l. 10s. per ton, f.o.b. in ½-cwt. casks, and 7l. to 7l. 5s. per ton in 1-cwt. kegs. Chlorates are very firm—potash, 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb.; and soda, 4¾d. to 4½d. per lb.

**SULPHATE OF COPPER** firm with advancing tendency, but so far unchanged from last quotations.

**BICHROMATES** are easier, with nominal quotations, 4½d. and 3½d. net per lb. Glasgow for potash and soda respectively.

**SOUTH DURHAM SALT** is in strong demand and very firm at 11s. 3d. per ton, f.o.b. Tees.

**RECOVERED SULPHUR** firm at 5l. per ton on rails in bags.

**LINSEED AND COTTONSEED CAKES** very steady, with fair business passing. Linseed, 95-per-cent. pure, 8l. 15s.; oilcakes, 7l. 10s.; cotton-cakes, best makes, 6l. to 6l. 5s.; seconds, 5l. 7s. 6d. to 5l. 10s.

**BARIUM PRODUCTS** keep moving steadily, and prices maintain an advancing tendency. Blanc fixe (precipitated sulphate of barium), in paste form, 7l. to 7l. 5s. per ton in casks, free on rails. Chloride of barium, best ordinary refined crystals, in casks, 7l. 2s. 6d. to 7l. 5s. per ton, free on rails; and 7l. 7s. 6d. to 7l. 10s. per ton, f.o.b., bags 5s. per ton loss. Sulphide of barium very firm at 6l. to 6l. 5s. per ton on rails in barrels. Mineral carbonate of barium is practically unobtainable except in the smallest quantities at present. Hydrate of barium, purest crystals, 12l. to 13l. per ton ex-stock in casks, according to quantity.

## Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, February 28.

**CASTOR OIL.**—The spot price for good seconds Calcutta remains very firm at 3½d. per lb., at which price small sales are being made. To arrive, much higher quotations are being asked, but the volume of business at the advanced rates has been small. First-pressure French is held at 3½d.; second-pressure, 3½d.; sulphur seconds, 3d., with advancing prices abroad. Belgian first-pressure offers at 3½d. to 3¾d., and first-pressing English oil is held for 3½d. per lb.

**CANARY-SEED** has improved in position during the week, and a few hundred bags have changed hands at 32s. 6d., and this price, up to 33s. 6d. per qtr., now rules.

**BEESWAX.**—Ten sacks Chilean are reported sold at prices ranging from 7l. 12s. 6d. to 7l. 15s. per cwt. Stocks are being brought into a very narrow compass, and holders talk of higher prices. Californian has sold at 6l. 17s. 6d.

**QUILLAYA-BARK.**—Five tons are reported at 13l. 7s. 6d. per ton. Stocks here are held at 13l. 5s. to 13l. 7s. 6d. per ton, according to quality.

**CANAUBA WAX.**—The volume of business is small, but the high prices are maintained, a sale of Maranhão grey being reported at 72s. 6d. per cwt.

**CHILLIES, S.L.**—Twenty bags new crop of fair quality sold from



the quay at 45s. per cwt., and 37 bags common to fair at 42s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt.

**KOLA-NUTS.**—Seven bags good dry W.C.A. sold at 1½d. per lb.

**HONEY.**—A sale of 48 cases liquid Californian is reported at 45s. per cwt., and the various grades range in value from 40s. to 46s. per cwt. There has been considerable movement in Chilean, 250 barrels Pile I. selling at 24s. to 25s., 50 barrels Pile X. 30s. to 30s. 6d. per cwt., and Pile II. at 23s. 6d. per cwt.

**SULPHATE OF COPPER** is firm at 25l. per ton.

**BALSAM COPAIBA.**—Three barrels Maranham cloudy, offered at auction, 1s. 5½d. was bid and refused, owners holding the lot for 1s. 6½d.

**IRISH MOSS** is firmly held, common having been sold in quantity at 10s. 6d. per cwt., and holders now talk of 12s. per cwt.

**GRAINS OF PARADISE.**—One small bag offered at auction, and the brokers let it go at 5l. 2s. 6d. per cwt., although they had spoken of 10l. per cwt. before the auction.

**ARROWROOT.**—Prime West Indian is held for 4½d. per lb.

**BORAX.**—For a parcel at auction 15l. was asked, but there were no bids, buyers not apparently caring for the quality.

**POTASSIUM BICHROMATE.**—Sales have been made at 4½d. per lb. net.

### German Drug Market.

*Hamburg, February 27.*

Our drug-market has not shown much business this week; the general tendency is quiet, and only a very few articles attract attention just now.

**AGAR AGAR** is firm at 405m. per 100 kilos. spot; and 370m. for forward delivery.

**BALSAM PERU** is dull, and tending lower at 12½m. per kilo.

**CARAWAY-SEED** is very firm and advancing; to-day's quotation is 57m. per 100 kilos.

**CASCARA SAGRADA** is quieter at 55m. per 100 kilos.

**CAMPHOR (REFINED)** is quiet in consequence of recent regulations; second-hand is offered at 435m. per 100 kilos.

**COCAINE** is dull; hydrochlor. is 510m. per kilo. in second-hands, and depressed by offers of crude cocaine.

**CEVADILLA-SEED** is quiet; some 180 bags new crop have arrived, and may probably sell at 90.85m. per 100 kilos.

**ERGOT OF RYE** is easier in consequence of new offers from Russia, which depress the market; spot is quoted to-day 520m. per 100 kilos.

**LYCOPODIUM** is firm with small stocks, and small orders from America have caused higher prices; spot is held at 465m. per 100 kilos.

**MENTHOL** is quiet at 19½m. per kilo.

**QUININE** is steady at 49m. per kilo.

**STAR-ANISE** steady at 182½m. per 100 kilos.

**WAX (CARNAUBA)** shows a very strong market, with small stocks. Grey is quoted 149m. per 100 kilos. up to 205m. for yellow.

**WAX (JAPAN)** is 61m. per 100 kilos.

**WORMSEED** is firm and scarce at 60m. per 100 kilos.

**OILS.**—Castor is very firm and scarce on the spot; first-pressing, in barrels, is 61½m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver neglected at 65m. per 100 kilos. for non-congealing oil. Rape oil is firm at 53½m. per 100 kilos. in barrels duty-free). Russian anise is firm at 13½m. per kilo, firm. Star anise steady at 13m. per kilo. Carvol oil firmer at 17m. per kilo. Peppermint oil is quiet, HGH at 5.10m. per lb.; and Japanese oil at 8m. per kilo.

### American Market.

*New York, February 20.*

Considerable interest is manifested in all leading staples, and the market presents an animated appearance. The undertone is strong, and quotations are in favour of holders.

**BALSAM TOLU** is in plentiful supply, and quotations are easy. Jobbing quantities can be had at 28c. to 30c.

**BEEWAX** is quiet, and dealers are not willing to pay prices asked. Ordinary pure is fairly steady at 29½c., and selected at 31c.

**BUCHU-LEAVES** are in fair demand, and the limited stock of short is held at 27c. to 30c. Long green leaves are obtainable at 26c. to 28c.

**CAMPHOR** is moving upwards, and domestic refined has advanced to 54c. in quantity.

**CITRIC ACID** is strong, having advanced 6c. during the past fortnight. Domestic manufacturers quote 41c. in barrels. Citrates have advanced in sympathy 2c. per lb.

**CINCHONINE** is firmer, and manufacturers offer sparingly. The general quotation is 30c. to 31c., according to quantity.

**COCAINE** has declined, in sympathy with foreign markets, and increased offerings from primary sources. Manufacturers offer at \$4.75 to \$4.95 in quantity.

**CASSIA OIL** has declined 75c. to 85c., according to test. The demand is light.

**CITRONELLA OIL** is easy, and purchasable at 23c. in drums and 24c. in cans.

**CLOVE OIL** can be bought at 55c.

**IPECACUANHA (Rio)** is firm, in sympathy with the London market, and holders generally ask \$3.0 for prime root. Smaller lots are obtainable at \$2.90.

**OPIMUM** is neglected, and has further declined to \$3.05 for case lots.

**QUININE** is in a very strong position. One domestic manufacturer has advanced quotations 2c., and others are expected to follow. Foreign manufacturers quote 35c., and domestic 35c. to 37c., "without offer."

**SARSAPARILLA (MEXICAN)** is unsettled, and values somewhat irregular, ranging from 7½c. to 9c.

### Japanese Market.

*Yokohama, January 25.*

(Continuation of letter published last week.)

In articles of import, carbolic acid is firmly held at advanced rates, and holders now quote 47 to 48 sen per lb. in 1-cwt. tins on the spot, while for forward delivery some 300 cwt. has changed hands at 48 to 49 sen. Prior to the advance a speculator bought 400 cwt. at from 43 to 45 sen per lb. Acetic acid is very lifeless: 500 20-kilo. demijohns of glacial have been sold at 20 sen per lb. Acetanilide is dull at 50 sen per lb. in 50-lb. tins, with sellers at 48 sen in ton lots. Alcohol is steadily advancing, holders now asking 17 sen per lb. in barrels and 18 sen per lb. in tins, with a good business thereat. For June, July, and August delivery there has been a considerable turnover at 20 sen. Boric acid is firmly held at 16.80 yen per cwt. Balsam copaiba firm at 92 sen per lb. in 50-lb. tins; on the other hand, Peru balsam is weak at 3.75 yen per lb. in 50-lb. drums, with few buyers. Since December last a speculator has been buying cocaine hydrochloride at prices ranging from 8.80 yen to 9.10 yen per oz. in 25-oz. tins, and up to January 25 he had purchased about 1,000 oz., which action strengthened the market, 9.25 yen being the general quotation a week ago. Suddenly, cables announcing a reduction of 10 per cent. in price were received by importers, so that there are now sellers at 8.50 yen per oz., with buyers at 8 yen. The present stock is estimated at about 3,000 oz. The glycerin market is weak at 26½ sen for sp. gr. 1.260; a few weeks ago 200 cwt. changed hands at 26 sen per lb. Cocoa-butter (P.J. II.) is higher, holders now quoting 1 yen per lb. Conduraigo-bark firmly held at 48 sen per lb. in original bales. Bismuth subnitrate is dull at 2.65 yen per lb. in 50-lb. tins with a slight demand and a considerable stock (about 10,000 lbs.). Ergot of rye is still dearer, 1.50 yen per lb. being wanted. Cinchona (6 per cent.) is held for 45 sen per lb. During the first quarter of the month there were sellers of quinine sulphate at 58 sen, and some 5,000 oz. sold at a shade below this figure—say, 57½ sen; but now the general quotation has risen to 62 sen per oz. in 100-oz. tins, and for hydrochloride 98 sen to 1 yen is quoted. The present stocks of both sulphate and muriate are estimated at 20,000 oz., and there are 30,000 oz. more on the way. Quicksilver firm at 174 yen per picul. Chlorate of potash is very scarce on the spot at 17.25 yen per cwt., with only small transactions. Forward contracts have been made at 14.75 yen per cwt. Large arrivals are expected after the end of March. Spanish saffron has declined to 28.50 yen per catty, at which figure about 200 catties have been sold. Caustic soda has considerably advanced owing to continued firmer advices from England. On the spot 6.90 yen per picul has been paid for 300-drum lots, but holders now ask 7.25 yen per picul; for arrival 500 6-cwt. drums have been sold at 6.70 yen to 6.80 yen per picul. An arrival of 200 cwt. of carbonate of ammonia has weakened the market, with the result that quotations have declined to 13 sen per lb.

### Cablegrams.

**HAMBURG, March 1, 10.48 A.M.**—Refined camphor in second-hands is selling at 435m. per 100 kilos. Carnauba wax is rising. Lycopodium is firm; and ergot is dull of sale and lower in price.

**NEW YORK, March 1, 2.38 P.M.**—A moderate business is passing here. Opium is dull of sale at \$3.05 per lb. Quinine strong, and advancing at 35c. for domestic. Carbolic acid is weaker at 32c. per lb. Buchu-leaves are also easier at 26c. for round green. Golden-seal root (hydrastis) has a downward tendency; 56c. per lb. will now buy. Jalap is also easier at 12½c. per lb.

### London Markets.

**ACID, CITRIC.**—Inactive, with sellers at 1s. 4½d. per lb. for English. Our Messina correspondent advises us on February 25 that concentrated juice is quoted 15l. 5s. per pipe, f.o.b., Messina.

**ACID, OXALIC.**—Very firm, at 3½d. per lb. from makers, but it is understood that they are not ready sellers; in second-hand 3d. is quoted.

ACID, TANNIC, is very firm, owing to the scarcity and dearthness of raw material. Makers are quoting 2s. to 2s. 1d. per lb., but we understand they are not ready sellers.

ACID, TARTARIC, keeps firm and in fair demand, at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. for English and 11¾d. to 1s. for foreign.

ARROWROOT.—Steady. At auction on Wednesday fair to good St. Vincents was bought in at 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—For a parcel of cloudy Maranham recently arrived in Liverpool 1s. 5¼d. per lb., ex quay, has been refused. In London the quotation is 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per lb.

BELLADONNA-ROOT.—Sales continue to be made at from 38s. to 40s. per cwt., c.i.f., for fair.

CAMPOR.—Crude is very quiet, but quotations are firm, at 177s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., for Japanese in second hands, while the importer's quotation is 185s., c.i.f.; Chinese is 170s. for March-May shipment. Both English and German refined are unchanged.

CINNAMON.—At the quarterly sales held last Monday there was a good demand for superior qualities, and for these an advance of 1d. to 2d. per lb. was paid. For the ordinary assortment of unworked there was little competition, and prices gave way ¼d. to 1d. at the commencement, but holders being firm this loss was recovered, and the close showed no change from last sales. After the auctions some of the bought-in lots were sold at steady rates.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—In fair inquiry, and tendency is firmer owing to scarcity of raw materials. B.P. powder (98 per cent.) is 80s., and foreign powder 79s. per cwt.

ERCOT OF RYE is easier, fairly large sales having been made at 2s. per lb., c.i.f., for Russian. Hamburg is now offering cheaper.

GINGER.—Japanesc is quoted 25s. per cwt., c.i.f., for new crop; on the spot there are a few parcels of old crop to be had at 24s.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—In fair inquiry. Open flowers of new crop are quoted 49s. per cwt., c.i.f., and 47s. for old.

JABORANDI.—About thirty bales have been sold in Liverpool at a low figure to clear.

MENTHOL.—Very quiet at 9s. per lb. nominally in the absence of business.

OIL, ANISE, STAR, is quite inactive at 6s. per lb. spot nominally.

OIL, CASTOR.—Very firm at 31l. per ton spot for first-pressing Belgian; and 28l. 10s. for second-pressing. Hull make is 33l. 10s. in barrels for best medicinal, and 4d. per lb. in cases. Firsts, 31l.; seconds, 30l. per ton, in barrels; firsts, 3½d. per lb. in cases; and seconds, 3½d., ex wharf London.

Advices from Calcutta, dated February 8, report that shippers are not operating at the current high prices, except to cover sales previously made. As supplies of seeds are still short, production continues on a limited scale, which has enabled crushers to raise their rates. A few parcels of fine pale medicinal oil are being offered for immediate delivery.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—There is decidedly more business this week, but prices are tending lower. Best Lofoten new oil has been sold in fair quantity at from 63s. to 65s. per barrel, c.i.f., according to brand. Bids of 60s. have been refused.

BERGEN, February 24.—As I telegraphed you on Thursday last the fishing at Lofoten proper and outlying districts has lately been very poor, the good prospects of some weeks ago not being realised. The market for noncongealing oil is nevertheless slow, owing to the fatness of the cod and hopes of better fishing in the near future. To-day's quotation is 65s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports to date are 589 barrels, against 1,125 barrels at the same time last year.

OPIUM.—Quiet and unchanged. Some holders are not offering at present, expecting better prices later.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 23.—During the past month almost absolute quietness has reigned on this market. Buyers appear to have withdrawn altogether, and, in view of ideal weather for the sowings, sellers are beginning to show some signs of anxiety to get rid of part of their holdings. Price to-day asked by holders is 8s. 1d. to 8s. 3d., f.o.b., for ordinary druggist's grades. Notwithstanding the present favourable conditions of things for new crop, the eventual success of same is by no means assured as yet.

There is still time for frost to do great harm, and the risk of drought in May is before us. Even if all goes well henceforward, let no one be deceived by rumours of bumper crops, &c., for the probabilities are that we shall never again see a crop of much over 7,500 cases, unless other districts besides present ones are opened up for cultivation of the poppy.

SMYRNA, February 23.—Owing to continued absence of business this week some needy dealers were obliged to lower their figures about 3d. per lb. in order to make progress. Ninety-six cases have been sold, mostly for American buyers, as follows:—Eighty-one cases old and new current tale-quale at the equivalent of 8s. 7d. to 8s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f., and 15 cases current Yerli tale-quale at 9s. The arrivals are 2,567 cases, against 1,410 at the same time last year. The large holders, however, will not sell at the reduction, and intend holding out for the late high prices until the end of March, at which time they will know with some degree of certainty the prospects of the next crop.

OTTO OF ROSE.—It is reported that the entire stock of good otto at Kezanlik has been cleared off the market, and that there is a steady demand for medium qualities.

PETROLEUM.—Importers further advanced their price on Friday last by ¾d. per gal. for Russian and ¼d. for American. Prime and standard white American is now held for 7¾d., spot and next month; water-white, 8¾d. to 9d. Prime white Russian. 7d. to 7¾d., spot and March.

QUININE.—After the close of our last report the second-hand market dropped ½d., March delivery selling at 1s. 5¾d. per oz. and May at 1s. 6d., and since then prices have fluctuated within narrow limits. On Wednesday about 20,000 oz. sold, at 1s. 5¾d. for March and 1s. 5¾d. to 1s. 5¾d. for May; but to-day there is practically no business. Howards's quotation for 1,000-oz. lots in bulk is 1s. 7d., or 1s. 9d. in vials. Imperial brand is 1s. 6d. No definite news appears to have yet come to hand regarding the auction of quinine in Batavia, but rumour has it that the sale went off very well, and that the equivalent of 1s. 5d. per oz. was paid. The bark-shipsments from Java for February are also reported to be small. At the drug-auctions two casks, each containing 120 4-oz. bottles of Howards' brand, were limited at 1s. 7d. A case containing 7 100-oz. tins (Southall Brothers & Barclay), at 1s. 5d., and a case containing 10 tins of 100 oz. each (Whiffen's) was bought in at 1s. 7d. Of French make, guaranteed B.P. (P. & G. brand), 10 100-oz. tins were offered, and sold readily at 1s. 5d. per oz.

SAFFRON has advanced from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb. within the last ten days, and a considerable business has been done. For finest Valencia 37s. per lb. net, in quantity, is quoted.

SALICIN.—Makers have withdrawn their quotations, but as yet no official advance has been made: 20s. to 21s. per lb. is quoted nominally.

SHELLAC.—Quiet at steady prices, but no important business is reported. T N Orange, on the spot, is quoted at 62s. per cwt. for fair. A few hundred cases for March delivery have been sold at 62s. to 62s. 6d.

SPICES.—A steady business has been done without much alteration in prices. The offerings at auction on Wednesday were unimportant. Cochin *Ginger* sold at 33s. 6d. per cwt. for boldish washed rough, new crop, and good small cut at 45s. per cwt.; but the bulk was withdrawn. Japan was bought in at 27s. per cwt. Jamaica sold at 46s. to 55s. per cwt. for common to fair. Zauzibar *Cloves* maintain their value; dull to fair stemmy sold at 4¼d. per lb. For delivery the quotation is 4¼d. to 4½d., according to position. *Pimento* is firm; a few lots of ordinary to good sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. Japan *Chillies* were bought in at 60s. per cwt. for fine red. East India *Capsicums* were withdrawn at 32s. per cwt. for dull red mixed faded. *Cinnamon-chips* were bought in at 4¼d. per lb. *Nutmegs* and *Mace* quiet. *Cassia* unchanged. *Pepper* rather firmer. Singapore black is worth 6½d. per lb. on the spot, and 6¾d. has been paid for May-July shipment. Tellicherry was bought in at 6¼d. per lb. Penang white was withdrawn at 8½d. per lb.

SULPHUR.—The shipments of sulphur from Sicily during January amounted to 41,149 tons of 13 Sicilian cantars, of which quantity Great Britain imported 2,633 tonnes, the United States 13,940 tonnes, and France 13,237 tonnes. The stocks at the end of January, 1900, were 277,695 tonnes against 249,979 tonnes at the same period of 1899. ....



**SPERMACETI.**—American refined is quoted at 1s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. spot.

**TURMERIC.**—Quiet, with small sales of split Cochin bulb at 12s. per cwt. Bengal is quoted nominally at 33s.; Madras is 32s. 6d. to 35s. for good bright finger.

Calcutta mail advices dated February 8 report that at this period of the year no export business is possible, neither quality nor prices being suitable for home markets. Reports for the new crop being favourable, there are sellers who will accept orders at 9s. for May and June delivery.

**WAX, JAPANESE.**—To arrive quotations are higher this week at 32s. per cwt. c.i.f. Market is quiet.

### London Drug-auctions.

The sales to-day were exceptionally brief, lasting exactly two hours, including the adjournment to the Commercial Sale-rooms. A fair proportion of the goods sold, but there were few actual changes in value. Ipecac. was unaltered compared with private sale rates. Cardamoms were cheaper. Benzoin and buchu-leaves unchanged. Senna-pods dearer, and Jamaica wax slightly easier. The following table shows the original packages offered and sold:—

Offered	Sold	Offered	Sold
Albumen .....	10 ... 0	Honey, Australian	50 ... 50
Aloes, Uganda.....	45 ... 45	Ipecacuanha—	
Zanzibar .....	45 ... 5	(Cartagena) .....	26 ... 4
Argol (Cape) .....	36 ... 0	(Rio) .....	20 ... 10
Asafetida .....	73 ... 0	Kino .....	2 ... 0
Balsam, Tolu ...	18 ... 0	Lime-juice (hhds.)	13 ... 0
Benzoin—		Menthol.....	3 ... 0
Palembang .....	59 ... 3	Musk-seed.....	2 ... 2
Sumatra .....	155 ... 50	Oil—	
Buchu .....	34 ... 16	citronella .....	1 ... 0
Cannabis indica ...	84 ... 0	eucalyptus.....	8 ... 0
Cardamoms .....	322 ... 218	lime .....	3 ... 0
Cinchona .....	25 ... 25	rose (E.I.) .....	4 ... 1
Civet .....	8 ... 0	thyme.....	3 ... 0
Cocaine (crude) ...	1 ... 0	Orange-peel .....	41 ... 0
Colocynth .....	6 ... 0	Quinine (oz.) .....	3180 ... 1000
Croton-seed .....	16 ... 0	Rhubarb .....	23 ... 23
Cumin-seed .....	11 ... 0	Sarsaparilla .....	4 ... 4
Gum ammoniacum ..	7 ... 7	Senna, Alexandrian	12 ... 8
arabic .....	60 ... 0	Tamarinds .....	3 ... 0
guaiaicum .....	7 ... 7	Tonka-beans .....	20 ... 5
sandarac .....	15 ... 0	Wax (bees') .....	111 ... 40

**ALOES.**—The feature of this drug was the offering of 45 boxes of the sun-dried hepatic description from East Africa, all of uniform quality in broken cakes about  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch thick, with good brown fracture. They were all disposed of cheaply at from 40s. to 45s. per cwt. The only other description offered was Zanzibar in skins, which sold at 70s. to 72s. 6d., per cwt. good hard brown.

**ARGOL.**—Dull of sale. Fair pale grey from the Cape was held for 52s. 6d. per cwt.

**BALSAM TOLU.**—No business in auction, but sales privately have been made at 1s. 7d. per lb.

**BENZOIN.**—No Siam was offered to-day, but the Sumatra offered sold at unchanged rates. Good marbled Sumatra seconds well packed, with medium to bold almonds, brought 10d. per cwt. (2 cases); the remainder of the parcel (12 cases) was bought in at 10d. 10s.; fair seconds sold at 6d. 15s. to 6d. 17s. 6d., and ordinary medium seconds to common, dark ends, 6d. 5s. Another parcel (42 cases) was held at from 6d. 7s. 6d. to 6d. 15s. per cwt. for ordinary to common. Of 59 cases Palembang offered three sold at 65s. per cwt., subject to seller's approval for good fair.

**BUCHU-LEAVES** were more freely offered to-day, and sold at 1s. per lb. for good green round leaf; for stalky and yellowish leaf 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. was refused in one instance, 9d. being the limit. Another parcel of four bales all sold at 7d. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

**CANNABIS INDICA.**—Somewhat brownish tops were held for 5d. per lb.

**CARDAMOMS.**—In auction fine qualities sold at unchanged rates, but medium were about 2d. per lb. lower. The following prices were paid:—Fine bold pale round, 4s.; medium to good bold ditto, 3s. to 3s. 5d.; medium pale round, 2s. 8d.; dull bold long, 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d.; medium ditto, 2s. 1d.; medium to bold brown, 2s. 7d.; medium pale long, 2s. 3d.;

medium split, 2s. 3d.; small to medium dull, 2s. 1d.; very small pale, 1s. 11d.; pale open, 1s. 10d.; small pale, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7d.; specky, 1s. 5d.; brown splits and pickings, 1s. 5d.; Ceylon-Malabars: Good medium brown were bought in at 1s. 10d., and lean at 1s. 8d.; fair wild long Ceylons, 2s. 7d. to 2s. 10d., subject. Seeds were slightly dearer, from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d. per lb. being paid, according to quality.

The exports from Ceylon for the week ending February 5 were 21,349 lbs., of which 14,305 lbs. were shipped to London, and 6,984 lbs. to Hamburg. The exports from January 1 to February 5 were:—

Lbs.	1900	1899	1898	1897
...	53,591	46,755	37,462	29,631

**CINCHONA.**—In auction good thin brown Huanoco quill sold at 7d. to 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. for sound, and 6d. to 7d. for country damaged. A seron of small broken Loxa quill brought 11d. per lb. Of flat Calisaya bark, 5 bales offered and sold at 10d. for sound, and 8d. for damaged.

Our Amsterdam correspondent writes:—The cinchona-bark auction to be held in Amsterdam on March 22 will consist of 4,049 packages of Ledgeriana, Officialis, and Hybrid; 1,081 cases, 1,155 bales, and 52 packages of Succirubra. The stock in first hands at Amsterdam consisted on February 28 of 2,331 packages of Government bark and 6,721 packages of private bark, including the quantity put up in the auction of March 22 next. The Batavia quinine auction is reported to have run off satisfactorily, but details are not yet to hand.

**COLOCYNTH.**—Small to bold pale Turkey apple, partly broken, was held for 1s. 5d. per lb.

**CROTON-SEED.**—Fair but partly dark mixed seed from Colombo was bought in at 45s. per cwt. nominally.

**GUM AMMONIACUM.**—Good pale, mostly free almonds, but slightly blocky and woody, sold at 36s. to 38s. per cwt.

**GUM ARABIC.**—Small to medium pale and reddish picked Aden was held for 52s. 6d. per cwt.

**GUM GUAIAICUM** sold at slightly easier rates, 1s. per lb. being accepted for good resinous drop, slightly damp, and 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for fair; dull block brought 4d., and low drossy damp block 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

**HONEY.**—Australian was the only kind offered to-day. It sold readily at 24s. 6d. per cwt. for dark brown liquid in cases, each containing two tins.

**IPECACUANHA.**—Previous to the auctions a few bales of Rio had sold at 11s. 3d. per lb.; and Cartagena at 8s. to 8s. 3d., according to quantity. The stock in the drug-warehouse on February 28 was 142 bales of Rio and 122 Cartagena. About 97 bales were delivered during February. In auction these prices were fully maintained, 11s. to 11s. 3d. per lb. being paid for fair to good sound root. A bale of second-class sea-damaged sold at 10s. 10d. per lb.; and a bale of second-class mouldy at 11s. Only a few bales of Cartagena sold, 7s. 3d. to 7s. 4d. being paid for three bags of fair damaged, but this cannot be taken as an indication of the market-price. Another parcel of 11 cases was bought in at 8s. 3d. per lb.

**KINO.**—Two cases of genuine small dark grain kino from Bombay, the last item in the auctions, sold at the low figure of 1s. per lb.

**MUSK-SEED** of fair odour from St. Lucia sold at 1s. 6d. per lb.

**OIL, CASSIA.**—Very quiet, with lower quotations for arrival—viz., 3s. 5d. per lb., c.i.f., for 80 to 85 per cent.; on the spot 3s. 11d. is wanted for this grade.

**OIL, ROSE.**—A bottle of settlings (13 oz.) sold at 1d. per oz.

**RHUBARB.**—In more demand in auction at the following rates:—Canton, good bold flat, part rough and woody, three-quarter pinky fracture, quarter grey, 1s. per lb.; medium ditto, 10d.; bold round ditto, part woody three-quarter pinky, quarter grey fracture, 10d. to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; small to medium ditto, three-quarter grey, quarter grey and dark fracture, 9d. good rough round and flat mixed pickings, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Seven cases were offered "without reserve," and sold as follows:—Medium flat Canton, dull coat, three-quarter dark, one-quarter grey fracture, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb.; ditto round, 6d. There have been no arrivals this week.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Genuine grey Jamaica root was the only

kind offered. It was first-class country-damaged, and sold at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.

SENNA.—Over 600 bales of Tinnevely leaf have arrived this week, but they were not to hand in time to be offered to-day. A few bales of Alexandrian leaf offered and partly sold at 6½d. for broken leaf, a bid of 7½d. was refused for fair green whole leaf. Pods realised higher prices, 9d. to 9½d. per lb. being paid for good pale.

WAX, BEES'.—Jamaica wax was slightly easier, good hard to yellow being sold at 7l. 5s. per cwt. Another parcel of 7 packages was bought in at 7l. 10s. to 7l. 12s. 6d. per cwt. Good brown Zanzibar brought 6l. 17s. 6d., and Madagascar from 6l. 15s. to 7l. 5s. per cwt. Several parcels of Calcutta and Australian wax were bought in.

### The Amsterdam Drug Market in 1899.

The following remarks regarding the Amsterdam drug-market in 1899 are from the annual review of produce from the Dutch colonies, published by Mr. J. H. de Bussy:—

BENZOL.—It appears certain that the consumption in Europe is steadily decreasing. Prices were fairly high, with little fluctuation, being slightly firmer towards the end of the year owing to a somewhat better demand. Fine qualities were not offered at all, and common was also scarce. The stock on January 1, 1899, was 630 piculs, the imports in 1899, 160 piculs, and the sales 440 piculs, leaving a stock of 350 piculs. The quotations were:—

	December 31, 1899.	December 31, 1899
Fine seconds ...	90-100 cts.	95-105 cts.
Very good seconds ...	80-85 "	80-85 "
Good seconds ...	55-60 "	60-65 "
Medium to common ...	35-55 "	40-55 "

CANANGA OIL.—768 bottles were imported in 1899, all of which were sold. The demand was very good, especially towards the close of the year, and small but regular shipments will no doubt fetch good prices. Present quotation is 11½l. per bottle (0·65 litre) for good pure quality.

CAJUPUT OIL is becoming less and less important. The total imports were only about 4,200 bottles, partly still unsold. Good green quality is offered at 1·40½l., but at this price finds very few buyers.

CUBERS.—There was very little demand, buying being chiefly of a speculative character. The stock on January 1, 1899, was 1,250 bags; 78 bags were imported, and 538 sold in the course of the year, leaving a stock of 740 bags unsold on December 31 last. The prices on December 31, 1899, as compared with those of ten years previously, were as follows:—

	December 31, 1899.	December 31, 1899
Cultivated ...	15-16c.	17-17c.
Coarse ...	12-13c.	13-14c.
Fine ...	10-11c.	11-12c.
Mixed ...	7-8c.	8-9c.

JAVA QUININE.—Notwithstanding great efforts, it has not yet obtained a firm footing, as it is not in favour with Continental buyers. A market for Java quinine does not yet exist at Amsterdam, and it is very doubtful whether it will ever be established in view of the fact that the Bandung Works supply the United States direct, and, by the Batavia auctions opening the door to all comers. The import in 1899 amounted to 600 kilos., of which 285 kilos. are still unsold. In March 1899, the quotation was 26½d. to 28½d., against 35·50½d. to 40·50½d. for European-made quinine; at present (January) the purest quality of Java quinine can be bought at 24·50½d.

A WAY THEY HAVE IN THE STATES.—The Philadelphia Association of Retail Druggists held a "progressive euche and dance" on February 7, when 1,800 people were present. The Mayor of Philadelphia made a few introductory remarks, and when the enthusiasm had subsided the game of euche began for 236 prizes. Dancing ended the pre-eminently successful function.

DR. GEORGE WATT, the well-known Indian botanist, is about to retire. He went out to Calcutta in 1873, when only 22, and after graduating as M.B. at Aberdeen, to take up the post of Professor of Botany in the local University, and he was for some considerable time engaged in botanical exploration in the interesting region of Manipur. He became a great authority on the economic resources of India fourteen years ago, and had charge of the Indian section of the Indian and Colonial exhibition at South Kensington. On returning to India in 1887 he was appointed "Reporter" on Economic Products to the Government—an office which he has held up to now with great practical benefit to the country.

## Coming Events.

Notices of meetings are inserted free in this section if received by the Editor not later than Wednesday of the week before the meetings are held.

### Monday, March 5.

*Society of Arts*, John Street, Adelphi, W.C. Mr. E. S. Shepherd will deliver the first of four lectures on "The Photography of Colour."

*Society of Chemical Industry* (London Section), Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. "The Presence of Naphthalene in Coal-gas," by Mr. R. W. Allen. "Notes on the Determination of the Iodine-value of Oils," by Mr. A. Marshall.

*Dewsbury Chemists' Association*, Town Hall, Dewsbury, at 8.30 P.M. Annual general meeting.

### Wednesday, March 7.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain*, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 11 A.M. Council meeting.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland*, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M. Council meeting.

*Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association*. Annual supper. Tickets may be had from Mr. J. Lennox, 139 Princes Street, Edinburgh.

*Royal Photographic Society*, 66 Russell Square, W.C., at 8 P.M. Exhibition of National Photographic Record Association will be opened by Sir Benjamin Stone, M.P.

*Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association*, Exchange Restaurant, Stephenson Place, Birmingham, at 9 P.M. Smoking-concert.

### Thursday, March 8.

*Chemical Society*, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8.30 P.M. Professor Warington, F.R.S., "Recent Researches on Nitric-acid."

*Chemists' Assistants' Association*. Annual Dinner, in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, W.C. Tickets, 5s. each, may be had from Mr. C. J. Strother, 486 High Road, Chiswick, W., or Mr. H. Hymans, 34 Devonshire Street, Portland Place, W.

*Nottingham Chemists' Association*. Annual Dinner at the Albert Hotel, Derby Road, Nottingham, at 8 P.M.

### Friday, March 9.

*Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 P.M. Professor Frank Clowes on "Bacteria and Sewage."

*Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association*, 100 West Regent Street, Glasgow, at 9.15 P.M. Dr. G. Coull on "Stereo-chemistry" (altered from last week).

Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo Road, S.E.—The following lectures have been arranged to take place on Tuesdays at 8.30 P.M.:—March 6, Mr. A. Stanfield, "Money"; March 13, Mr. G. A. J. White, "The Polarisation of Light"; March 20, Professor Frank Clowes, "Nature's Scavengers"; March 27, Mr. Bennett H. Brough, "The World's Copper Mines."

FRENCH COLONIAL PRODUCE.—The President of the Republic has just promulgated a law modifying the Customs duties on certain colonial produce—viz., coffee, chocolate, tea, and spices. Under the law of 1892 the tariff for those goods was a general one, being the same under the maximum tariff and under the minimum tariff. The effect of the new law is to reserve the old duty for countries enjoying the "most-favoured-nation" treatment, and therefore the minimum tariff, and to provide a new duty under the maximum tariff for countries not enjoying the "most-favoured-nation" treatment, which is double the duty paid hitherto. Under this new law, India—which is a large exporter of tea, coffee, and spices—will be heavily struck, as Indian tea will have to pay 400f. per 100 kilos. instead of 208f.; Indian coffee, 300f. in beans, and 400f. ground, per 100 kilos., instead of 156f.; and Indian spices and pepper, 400f. per 100 kilos., instead of 208f. The direct importation of those articles into France from India was as follows in 1898:—Coffee, 6,893,286 kilos.; tea, 174,951 kilos.; pepper, 1,567,741 kilos.; cinnamon, &c., 37,220 kilos. The other articles affected by the new law are nutmegs, which will pay 600f. under the maximum tariff and 312f. under the minimum tariff; vanilla, 800f. maximum tariff, and 416f. minimum tariff; and chocolate, 300f. maximum tariff, and 150f. minimum tariff. A presidential decree has been issued postponing the application of the law until the end of August in the present year. We are indebted to the Secretary of the British Chamber of Commerce at Paris for the above information.





